HEC 394 26713 .059Dc/c

CANADA'S PART
IN THE
PRESENT WAR

EMPIRE DAY
THURSDAY
MAY 23rd, 1918

ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Printed by Order of
The Legislative Assembly of Ontario

TORONTO
Printed and Published by A. T. WILGRESS, Printer
to the King's Most Excellent Majesty
1918

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
University of Toronto

https://archive.org/details/canadaspartinpre00onta

CANADIAN GENERALS IN THE GREAT WAR

CANADA'S PART
IN THE
PRESENT WAR

EMPIRE DAY
THURSDAY
MAY 23rd, 1918

ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Printed by Order of
The Legislative Assembly of Ontario

TORONTO
Printed and Published by A. T. WILGRESS, Printer
to the King's Most Excellent Majesty
1918

As Canada's part in the Great War has now become a momentous and brilliant chapter in the History of the Empire, it has been deemed advisable to devote some portion of Empire Day, 1918, to a review of the manifold martial activities of Canada since August, 1914.

The accompanying programme and sketches will provide ample and suitable material for the exercises of the Day.

"Three and a half years have passed since Canada took the fateful decision. In that period, one of the greatest empires in the world has grown war-weary, and is to-day staggering in a welter of anarchy. The steam roller of affliction has passed over Belgium, Serbia, and Rumania. Dynasties have fallen, and the red atmosphere of revolution grows apace. But the spirit of courage in Canada is still to-day as bright and far-flung as the mantle of her winter snows. She has suffered in proportion to her numbers as deeply as Great Britain. She has lavished the best blood of her youth as freely as her accumulated treasure. She has developed for war purposes a resource of manufacturing ability of which no one could have supposed her capable. She has supplied incredible quantities of shrapnel to the Allied forces. She is to-day manufacturing small arms and uniforms for the infant armies of the United States. And her courage and resolution grow day by day."

—*The Right Hon. Sir Frederick Smith.*

EMPIRE DAY, 1918

CANADA'S PART IN THE PRESENT WAR

PROGRAMME

9.00- 9.10	1. Scripture Reading—Psalm 46 2. Prayer—The Lord's Prayer
9.10- 9.15	3. The National Anthem
9.15- 9.35	4. The Story of our Flag—See Teachers' Manual on History, page 68
9.35-10.15	5. Lesson—Why Canada entered this War (Page 7)
10.15-10.30	6. Song—"O Canada" (Educational Music Course, page 170)
10.30-10.45	7. Intermission
10.45-11.30	8. Lesson—What Canada has contributed to the War in Men and in Money (Pages 17-22)
11.30-12.00	9. Lesson—Literature—"The Children's Song", Fourth Reader, page 1, or "Canada", Fourth Reader, page 37
12.00- 1.30	10. Noon
1.30- 2.00	11. The Assembling and Saluting of the Flags of Great Britain and her Allies (see page 92)
2.00- 2.20	12. Address—The Story of St. Julien (Page 24)
2.20- 2.30	13. "In Flanders Fields" (to be sung or recited) (Page 29)
2.30- 2.50	14. Address—"What Children and Their Parents can do to Assist Production and Conservation".
2.50- 3.00	15. Song—"My Own Canadian Home" (Educational Music Course, page 146)
3.00- 3.25	16. Lesson—The Story of Vimy Ridge (Page 39)
3.25- 3.40	17. Intermission
3.40- 3.50	18. Song—"The Land of the Maple" (Educational Music Course, page 108)
3.50- 4.10	19. Address—The Responsibilities resting on the Children of Canada in the Present Crisis
4.10- 4.20	20. Special Prayer
4.20- 4.30	21. God Save the King

This programme is suggestive only. Teachers are asked to make such changes or re-arrangements as will, in their judgment, contribute to the highest measure of success in carrying out the Empire Day celebration.

While intended primarily for ungraded Public and Separate Schools, it is hoped that this programme will admit of such emendations as to make it suitable for other types of schools.

Empire Day exercises are usually most interesting and profitable to the children and to the community when all the citizens are invited to share in them, particularly in the afternoon. The teacher should conduct all the lessons, and may, if desirable, conduct all the exercises; but it is suggested that invitations be given the local clergy and other prominent persons to share in the celebration and to give some of the addresses.

If the School has a Cadet Corps, there should be a muster on Empire Day, and a brief address should be made to the Corps by some competent person.

It is not intended that any or all of the material in this Pamphlet should be read to the pupils, or even used. The Pamphlet is merely an accessible source of information for the teacher. It is hoped, however, that the story of what Canada and Canadian soldiers have done will be of service, in giving the children ideas of real patriotism and of present responsibilities.

WHY CANADA ENTERED THE WAR

Canada's part in the great world war has been voluntary; and some people unacquainted with Canadian history and Canadian sentiment have, therefore, asked why this young country, with its love of peace and its hatred of war, should have rushed at once into a conflict that seemed for a time to be largely European. To Canadians, however, their duty seemed very clear. Canada was a part of the British Empire; Great Britain and the Empire were in danger; and it was the duty, therefore, of loyal citizens to act at once. This attitude was well expressed by one of our newspapers: "We were under the impression that Canada's loyalty to the Empire is something so big, so obvious, that our taking part in this conflict would never be questioned. To a Canadian, to remain neutral during an Empire crisis such as exists to-day would be a monstrous thing".

There was a time when Canada would not have felt called upon to respond as she is now doing. At the time of the Napoleonic Wars, the Canadian provinces were small, struggling communities, with neither men nor resources to support Great Britain in a distant theatre of war. Indeed, when Canada was attacked, in 1812, by the United States, Great Britain had to come to her assistance. Canada took no part in the Crimean War. She had no share in the many small wars waged by Great Britain in the succeeding forty years. The Canadian Government, in 1884, refrained from furnishing troops for use in Egypt and the Sudan, although it sanctioned the recruiting by the British authorities of a body of boatmen for

service on the Nile. It was a very important departure, therefore, when Canada raised nearly 1,000 men, in 1899 and 1900, for service in South Africa.

Great as was the enthusiasm in 1899 to assist the Mother Country, there was, in 1914, a unanimity, a seriousness, a burning zeal on behalf of Great Britain and her cause, unlike anything that had ever before possessed Canada. The country was ready at once to do its utmost. Even before war was declared by Great Britain, offers of voluntary service poured in on the Dominion Government from every part of the country. It was this widespread enthusiasm which made it possible to enroll, train, and embark 33,000 men within six weeks—the largest single force that had ever crossed the Atlantic.

Why this unanimity, this intense enthusiasm, in 1914? The twenty years preceding the war had been a period of great national growth—growth in population, in wealth, in education, in national consciousness. The Canada of 1914 was no longer an obscure, helpless colony, but a strong, robust, self-reliant nation within the greatest Empire of the world. Attachment to Great Britain, always very strong among the English-speaking people of Canada, and always the strongest tie uniting the Dominion to the Empire, had become more intelligent, more reasoned, during the second half of the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth. Great Britain had long been the champion of personal liberty and parliamentary government, but she endeared herself still further to Canadians by granting them, first, complete responsible self-government in local affairs, and then a large measure of freedom even in negotiations with foreign powers. In addition, Canada and the other Dominions were admitted to a real partnership with the Mother Country. From 1907 on, the Imperial Conference was a most useful means of consultation

and concerted action, especially in 1911, when the Dominion representatives were taken fully into the confidence of the Imperial Government with respect to foreign affairs. Since the war began, this partnership has been still further improved by the admission of Dominion representatives to the Imperial War Cabinet. Is it any wonder that, in these circumstances, Canada felt that she was challenged when Germany threatened Great Britain? On August 3rd, 1914, a Toronto writer expressed this feeling well: "Of one thing, let there be no cavil or question—if it means war for Great Britain, it means war also for Canada. If it means war for Canada, it means also the union of all Canadians for the defence of Canada, for the maintenance of the Empire's integrity, and for the preservation in the world of Britain's democratic government and life".

But Canadian enthusiasm was caused also by the conviction that Great Britain had done all she honourably could do to keep out of the war, and that her cause was absolutely just. For years Germany had been a political aggressor, and on three occasions, at intervals of three years, had risked war, in order to maintain or increase German prestige. In 1905 she had challenged the position of France in Morocco; in 1908 she had supported Austria in the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in 1911 she had sent the gunboat *Panther* to Agadir, in order to interfere once more in Moroccan affairs. The world did not know until December, 1914, that Germany and Austria wished to attack Serbia in 1913, during the second Balkan War; but the action of Austria toward Serbia, in July, 1914, was so brutal, and the course of Germany in the negotiations between July 23rd and August 4th, 1914, was so palpably shifty and insincere, that the world became convinced that the Teutonic powers

were bent on having war. The newspaper accounts of these negotiations were brief and incomplete, but they showed clearly that the British, French, and Russian Governments had struggled earnestly to avoid war. Sir Edward Grey, in particular, had been tireless, and had hoped to preserve the general peace of Europe, as he had done at the outbreak of the Balkan War in 1912.

Canadian statesmen had, no doubt, an even better grasp of the situation than had the public or the newspapers. In 1911 the Dominion representatives at the Imperial Conference had attended a momentous meeting of the Imperial Defence Committee, when Sir Edward Grey had given a comprehensive review of Great Britain's foreign relations. A year later, Sir Robert Borden had visited Great Britain to consult the Imperial Government concerning naval policy, and, in January, 1914, the Overseas Defence Committee had suggested to the Canadian Government that a conference of the chief deputy heads of departments should be held, with a view to preparing plans for prompt action to meet just such an emergency as arose.

On August 2nd, 1914, when war with Germany seemed inevitable, the Canadian Government sent the following message to the British Government: "If unhappily war should ensue, the Canadian people will be united in a common resolve to put forth every effort and to make every sacrifice necessary to ensure the integrity and maintain the honour of our Empire". Six weeks later, when Canada's first contingent was about to embark for Europe, the Canadian Parliament met in special war session, and the two leaders then gave noble expression to Canada's loyalty to the Mother Country, Canada's conviction that Great Britain was fighting in a just cause, and Canada's determination to do her full duty in this world-crisis. Sir

Wilfrid Laurier, speaking first, expressed eloquently the feeling of his fellow-countrymen, when he exclaimed: "We are British subjects, and to-day we are face to face with the consequences which are involved in that proud fact. Long we have enjoyed the benefits of our British citizenship; to-day it is our duty and our privilege to accept its responsibilities; yes, and its sacrifices. It is our duty, more pressing on us than all other duty, at once, on this first day of debate in the Canadian Parliament, to let Great Britain know, to let the friends and foes of Great Britain know, that there is in Canada but one mind and one heart, and that all Canadians stand behind the Mother Country, conscious and proud that she did not engage in war from any selfish motive, for any purpose of aggrandizement, but that she engaged in war to maintain untarnished the honour of her name, to fulfil her obligations to her Allies, to maintain her treaty obligations, and to save civilization from the unbridled lust of conquest and power".

In a noble peroration to his address, Sir Robert Borden, Premier of Canada, expressed thus our common convictions: "It is not fitting that I should prolong this debate. In the awful dawn of the greatest war the world has ever known, in the hour when peril confronts us such as this Empire has not faced for a hundred years, every vain or unnecessary word seems a discord. As to our duty all are agreed, east and west, and we stand shoulder to shoulder with Britain and the other British possessions in this quarrel. And that duty we shall not fail to fulfil as the honour of Canada demands. Not for love of battle, not for lust of conquest, not for greed of possessions, but for the cause of honour, to maintain solemn pledges, to uphold the principle of liberty, to withstand forces that would convert the world into an armed camp; yes, in the very

name of the peace that we sought at any cost save that of dishonour, we have entered into this war; and while gravely conscious of the tremendous issues involved, and of all the sacrifices that they may entail, we do not shrink from them, but with firm hearts we abide the event".

THE NEW NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS

The attainment of full national growth, in any real sense, depends upon internal, not external, conditions. It is determined by spiritual, not by material, forces. Important as external conditions may be, they can never by themselves fashion a nation. Common government, geographically self-contained territory, even community of language, are not the essential factors in national development, although their presence may favour or their absence hinder it. Behind these externals must lie the greater things—common ideals leading the people to a common goal, participation by all in the struggle for realization of these ideals, and a common pride in a common tradition. These are the spiritual forces which form intangible bonds stronger than any material power. When active in a people, that people becomes a nation in the true sense of the word, notwithstanding all possible diversities of race, religion, or language. When lacking, no national consciousness is possible, although in external respects uniformity obtains. Austria to-day possesses a compact, self-contained territory, a common government, and yet is no nation in a real sense, because no unifying bonds of common ideals bind together her polyglot population. Russia has fallen to pieces because her millions lacked the spiritual unity which only a common purpose and tradition can give. On the other hand, Switzerland, a tiny dot about which swirl the embattled hosts of half the world, stands

a strong and united nation, because the spiritual forces—the pride in tradition, the common purpose and effort which won and now maintain her freedom—are so strong that a real unity of soul has been attained by her people, despite the tremendous diversity in creed, language, and race.

To many, Canada before the war seemed to lack these essentials of true nationhood. Her wonderful development in material ways, her easily-won prosperity, and the enormous increase in wealth, had brought in their train an apparent lack of true patriotism, an unwillingness to make a personal sacrifice for the general welfare, and a selfishness which made a fetish of individualism. The average Canadian spoke much more of his country's duty to him than his duty to his country. It seemed that the path of existence had been too smooth, that material prosperity was hampering spiritual growth, and that success in the pursuit of wealth might mean spiritual bankruptcy.

Geographical conditions alone made national unity difficult for this Dominion. Populated Canada is a thin ribbon of country stretching across a continent. That in itself made inevitable a wide diversity of interests. The grain-grower on the prairie, the manufacturer in Ontario, the French-Canadian in Quebec, the lumberman in British Columbia, was each seeking his own advantage, sometimes at the others' expense. Too often it seemed that they all regarded their country as an opportunity to exploit, rather than a society to serve. True, all had a common pride in a common British tradition, but common ideals and a common effort in their realization were seldom in evidence.

Then came the war. Petty interests were lost in its vastness. Suddenly individual good seemed an infinitely small thing in the face of the tremendous danger which threatened this country's very existence. Civilization,

democracy, freedom, words previously ill-defined and vague, took on a new meaning and a new value. Canadians knew as never before that their salvation meant the salvation of the world. Belgium showed the glory and nobility of sacrifice for an ideal. Spiritual values had taken their true place in Canadian thought.

More powerful in its visible effects was the surge of patriotism which swept over the British Empire. Britain, the mother of freedom, was in danger; the Empire was threatened; Canada's help was needed. To that call came a single answer from a united Canada. "Through all the vastness of the Dominion, with its scattered centres of population and its diversity of race, tradition, and creed, there is but one voice as to the justice of the cause for which we have drawn the sword, and but one reply as to the obligation which rests upon us". In these words the Premier summed up Canada's attitude toward the war. Speaking shortly after the outbreak of hostilities, Hon. Rodolph Lemieux said: "To my French-speaking fellow-citizens I will say that British institutions are at stake in this war and that they are in honour bound to stand by the Mother Country in this hour of trial. I tell them that to be a British subject means to be a free man, enjoying full religious and civil liberty and equality before the law. This is, in my opinion, a just war, and its outcome will either mean that the liberties we enjoy in this era will be maintained or will disappear. We have already prepared a contingent of 25,000 men ready to start for the firing line, but others will follow, and, if necessary, 100,000 Canadians will rally round the colours and fight for liberty, justice, and civilization". A single purpose animated all Canadians.

Nor did Canadian deeds lag behind Canadian words. In six weeks after the declaration of war, a complete

Division, fully armed and equipped, was awaiting transportation to Europe. For every man required for it, five had volunteered. In that Division were men from East and West. Every part of Canada was represented. Canadians of all classes, creeds, and races stood shoulder to shoulder, ready to sacrifice their all upon the altar of their country.

This was accomplished in the first flush of patriotic enthusiasm. As the war progressed and the need for greater and ever greater efforts became plain, Canada's resolve to do her part worthily became more and more fixed. When millions of money were needed, millions were forthcoming, and the response to the needs of Red Cross and Patriotic Funds bore eloquent testimony to the willingness of the people to pour forth their treasure in the great cause. The answer of the manhood of Canada to the call to arms was even more striking. Before the war, Lord Roberts asked the Minister of Militia whether Canada could be counted upon for 10,000 men in case of a European war involving Britain. He was told that 30,000 would, in all probability, be our maximum contribution. To-day Canada has enlisted over 472,000 men, has drafted over 30,000 into the army, and still is not content with the effort that has been made.

In October, 1914, the first Canadian Division crossed the Atlantic, carrying with it the blessings and the prayers of a nation. Since then our men have gone in ever-increasing numbers into the maelstrom of conflict to battle for the Empire. Their deeds will ever remain the proudest memory of Canadians. Who can think unmoved of the heroism which "saved the situation" at Ypres, the splendid dash which took Vimy, for which a hundred thousand Frenchmen had bled in vain, the magnificent courage which Canadians have shown on every field?

Here is a story which will never die, an epic from which will come a splendid pride, an unshakable conviction that Canada's sons are of a race of heroes.

So the war has brought a unity of purpose and of action, and will bequeath a noble tradition in which all will share. These are the bonds which are bringing into closer and ever closer union the loose fabric of scattered communities which form this nation. Canadians have learned the great truth—that a nation's pride and patriotism can never be built upon the blood or sufferings of others or upon wealth filched from the coffers of those who in anguish fight Freedom's battles. Had the people of Canada accepted their liberties, their national life, from the hands of others, without themselves undergoing the torment of mind and the anguish of spirit which is the price of all true freedom, they could never have acquired that soul or created that pride without which a nation is a dead thing and doomed to speedy decay and disappearance.

But more than a new consciousness of national unity has come from the war. Canadians are brothers-in-arms not only with Canadians, but with Englishmen, Scotchmen, Irishmen, Australians, New Zealanders, South Africans, men from every corner of Britain's far-flung Empire. Canadian pride in the British navy is as great as Britain's own. The tale of Gallipoli stirs Canadian hearts as does the tale of Courcelette. Canadians are conscious of a single dominating purpose, inspiring not only themselves, but every British subject in every part of the world. They know that their own power, striking as it is, is but a part of the huge strength exerted by the Empire in its hour of trial. From this has come a sense of unity, a singleness of mind, a common pride, an Imperial consciousness. Canada is a nation, indeed, but a nation forming a part of that great union of free peoples which is termed the Empire.

It is in this consciousness of Imperial unity that the war has most clarified Canadian thought. We now see clearly a glorious vision of a world-wide, free Empire, the greatest and noblest which the world has seen; nations, great in themselves, united into one greater whole by the closest bonds of kinship in blood, in language, in ideals. That union has been welded in the fierce heat of battle, consecrated by the blood of thousands upon thousands. The men of that Empire enjoy a citizenship of a richness and a dignity unparalleled in history. To it Canada's highest loyalty is given.

By her suffering and sacrifice, Canada has vindicated her claim to full citizenship in the Empire. At last she has swung out into the full current of the world's life; the moorings of parochialism have been forever cast off. The war has broadened her horizon, until her view now embraces the whole globe. For better or for worse, the die is cast. Nevermore can Canada's interests be bounded by her own borders. The oceans, which once were barriers between this Dominion and the Old World, are now teeming highways which unite them. From now on Canada must play her part in the larger life of the world. Let it be her prayer that she may play that part in a manner worthy of her soldier sons who have died that she may live!

CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION IN MEN

One of the strongest evidences that the present conflict was forced upon the Allies is the fact of their utter unpreparedness for war. This is pre-eminently true of Canada. So many generations had grown up, knowing nothing of war, that the martial spirit which had flamed forth during the war of 1812 lay dormant in the present

generation. Military training was considered a harmless pastime which young men undertook for a week or two during the year as a sort of holiday. The militia was tolerated as long as the expense involved was kept strictly within narrow limits.

Those who knew best the Canadian character were not unaware that under that cloak of apparent unconcern with things military was hidden a spirit of the finest fibre; for the best red blood of the United Empire Loyalists, as well as that of the newer stock from the British Isles, courses through Canadian veins. The North-West Rebellion in 1885 had seen that spirit glow, the South African War had seen it flash forth; but it needed a cause nobler and more compelling to make it flame forth in all its grandeur. Such a cause was the Great War which began in 1914.

When the bolt came, it found the Canadian militia in a better condition than for many years. Nevertheless, equipment of all kinds was almost entirely lacking. But if our militia was weak in material accoutrements, it was strong in those spiritual qualities of patriotism, courage, enthusiasm, and unselfishness which are as valuable in a long war as are ammunition and guns.

When Germany declared war against Russia on August 1st, 1914, the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada, went by special train to Ottawa, and the Dominion Cabinet began to prepare for the mobilization of the Canadian forces. Within a few hours, fifteen militia regiments volunteered for active service, and by the time Great Britain had declared war on Germany, three days later, over one hundred thousand men had volunteered. Canada at once undertook the garrisoning of Bermuda, in order to release the British regulars there.

Within three hours of the declaration of war, orders were issued by the Department of Militia of Canada for

the preparation of an expeditionary force for service at the front. At once, in all the cities and towns of Canada, eager men swarmed about the enlistment offices. Only the most perfect physical types were accepted. Valcartier, the point at which the troops were to assemble, changed, as if by magic, from a collection of farms to a great city of tents and temporary buildings. Men poured in from every Province. It was planned to send 22,000 men in the first expeditionary force; but, before they were ready to sail, 30,000 of the choicest sons of Canada were assembled at the camp. Before the end of September—in less than seven weeks—this large number of men was completely equipped and ready to sail for England. About sixty per cent. of this contingent were born in the British Isles; the remainder were native born.

Such was the beginning of Canada's offering of the best of her sons. War had been such an unthinkable condition for Canada that the native-born Canadians at first found it difficult to understand the situation. But, as the war progressed, they soon recognized their duty, and recruiting became brisk. Young men from all grades of society flocked to the colours much more rapidly than they could be equipped or transported overseas. Every disaster to the Allies seemed to act as a stimulus to the men of Canada, and was followed by a wave of enlistment.

In the spring of 1915, the Canadians received their first baptism of fire. This first stand has been graphically described by Premier Lloyd George: "Just as the Rocky Mountains hurl back the storms of the West, so did these heroes in the battle of Ypres break the hurricane of the German fury amid the flames and poison fumes of Gehenna; they held high the honour of Canada and saved the British Army". Soon Canada had four Divisions, each of 20,000 men, on the Western front. Since that

brilliant stand at Ypres, these four Divisions have covered themselves with glory many times. The casualties* have been many, but Canada has always had reinforcements to fill the gaps.

There was no slackening of voluntary enlistment during 1915 and, on New Year's Day, 1916, Sir Robert Borden pledged Canada to raise 500,000 men. By September, 1916, no fewer than 361,000 free men of Canada had voluntarily offered their services for the cause of freedom; by June 30th, 1917, this number had grown to 424,000, and by February 28th, 1918, to 472,000. Besides these, at least 30,000 reservists had gone overseas to join the armies of the Allies. Such a record is most remarkable; it is doubtful if ever before in the history of the world such evidence of whole-hearted devotion to the British Empire has been shown.

Besides the many thousands of men in the Canadian Army, there are numbers of the sons of Canada who are officers in the British Army in Europe, in Mesopotamia, and other parts of the war zone. Others have been attracted to the British Navy, and are serving with the various fleets, in motor-boat patrols, and elsewhere. The Royal Flying Corps, now called the Royal Air Force, has also appealed very strongly to the young men of this Dominion.

---

* Canadian Casualties up to and including March 15th, 1918:

Killed	25,744
Died of wounds	8,612
Died of disease	1,901
Total	36,257
Wounded	105,250
Prisoners of war	2,757
Presumed dead	3,845
Missing	937
Total of all Casualties	149,046

Because it requires skill, steadiness, and initiative, and has in it so much of the romantic and the hazardous, it has drawn many of the intelligent and high-spirited youth of Canadian schools and colleges. It is said that at least twenty-five per cent. of Britain's airmen are Canadians, and the work they have performed has received the highest praise from the Imperial authorities.

Early in 1917 it became evident that the voluntary system would no longer supply the necessary number of recruits, and that, if the four Canadian Divisions in France were to be kept up to strength, some other method of enlistment must be adopted. Britain had experienced the same difficulty a year earlier. After a visit to Britain and France, Sir Robert Borden, on his return to Canada, announced that a Military Service Act would be introduced into Parliament and that, under this Act, the requisite drafts would be obtained by conscription. The very principle of conscription was repugnant to most Canadians, and yet it was generally recognized that without it the men to fill the gaps in the Divisions in France and Flanders could not be obtained. The Act was passed; and leading men of both parties, subordinating their former political differences, joined forces and formed a Unionist government. With the Military Service Act as the chief plank in its platform, this Government "carried the country" on December 17th, 1917. As a result of the operation of the Act, over 40,000 additional men were called to the colours in the first three months of 1918. Though the war may be long and costly in blood and treasure, the courage, the patriotism, and the steadfastness of Canada can be depended upon. Her men will go forward, until the war is won and the world is safe from tyranny and militarism.

CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION IN MONEY

While Canada's noblest contribution to the Allied cause has been that of nearly half a million of the best and bravest of her sons, it should not be forgotten that this Dominion has also contributed generously of her wealth. In a recent speech (April 2nd, 1918) in the House of Commons, Sir Robert Borden gave some interesting figures relative to Canada's war expenditure. In the last four years, the Department of Militia and Defence has expended the following amounts: in 1914-15, $53,176,000; in 1915-16, $160,433,000; in 1916-17, $298,291,000; in 1917-18, $279,636,000. In the same time, the Department of Justice spent for war purposes: in 1914-15, $254,000; in 1915-16, $1,287,000; in 1916-17, $1,248,000; in 1917-18, $1,673,000. The Department of Naval Service spent in 1914-15, $3,096,000; in 1915-16, $3,274,000; in 1916-17, $3,806,000; in 1917-18, $10,026,000. In the three years 1916, 1917, 1918, the Military Hospitals Commission spent $10,681,000. All these expenditures amount to a grand total of well over $800,000,000.

These figures represent the expenditure incurred by the Dominion Government in raising, equipping, and transporting Canadian troops, as well as providing their pay and sustenance. Of course, Canada's ordinary revenue would not provide for these huge expenditures; the money was raised by "war loans". Previous to the war, the Dominion went to Great Britain for loans. But, when the war broke out, Great Britain's money was required for her own use; and the Government of Canada decided to raise the necessary loans from the people of this country. To each of these loans there was a noble response on the part of Canadians generally. In Novem-

ber, 1915, $100,000,000 was raised in this way; in September, 1916, another $100,000,000; in March, 1917, $150,000,000; and in December, 1917, the people of Canada invested in the great, popular "Victory Loan" —over $400,000,000. Canadians did not *give* this money; they *invested* these amounts and are receiving a high rate of interest on their money. None the less the money is being spent by the Government of Canada for the purposes of the war.

These national expenditures, while representing the larger part of Canada's monetary contributions, do not by any means represent all that has been given. One of the most gratifying features of Canada's war activity has been the raising of immense sums by voluntary subscription. It is estimated that, during the first three years of the war, the sum of $75,000,000 has been raised in this way. Of this amount, the larger part has been raised for the Patriotic Fund, and has been expended in assisting the dependants of Canadian soldiers. Among other important agencies concerned in the collection and distribution of this money are the Canadian Red Cross, the British Red Cross, and the Belgian Relief Fund.

These huge sums, however, do not by any means tell the complete story. They do not include grants almost innumerable made by Provincial Governments, municipalities, and various organizations of private citizens. The women of Canada have been indefatigable in their work of supplying comforts and necessities to the soldiers overseas.

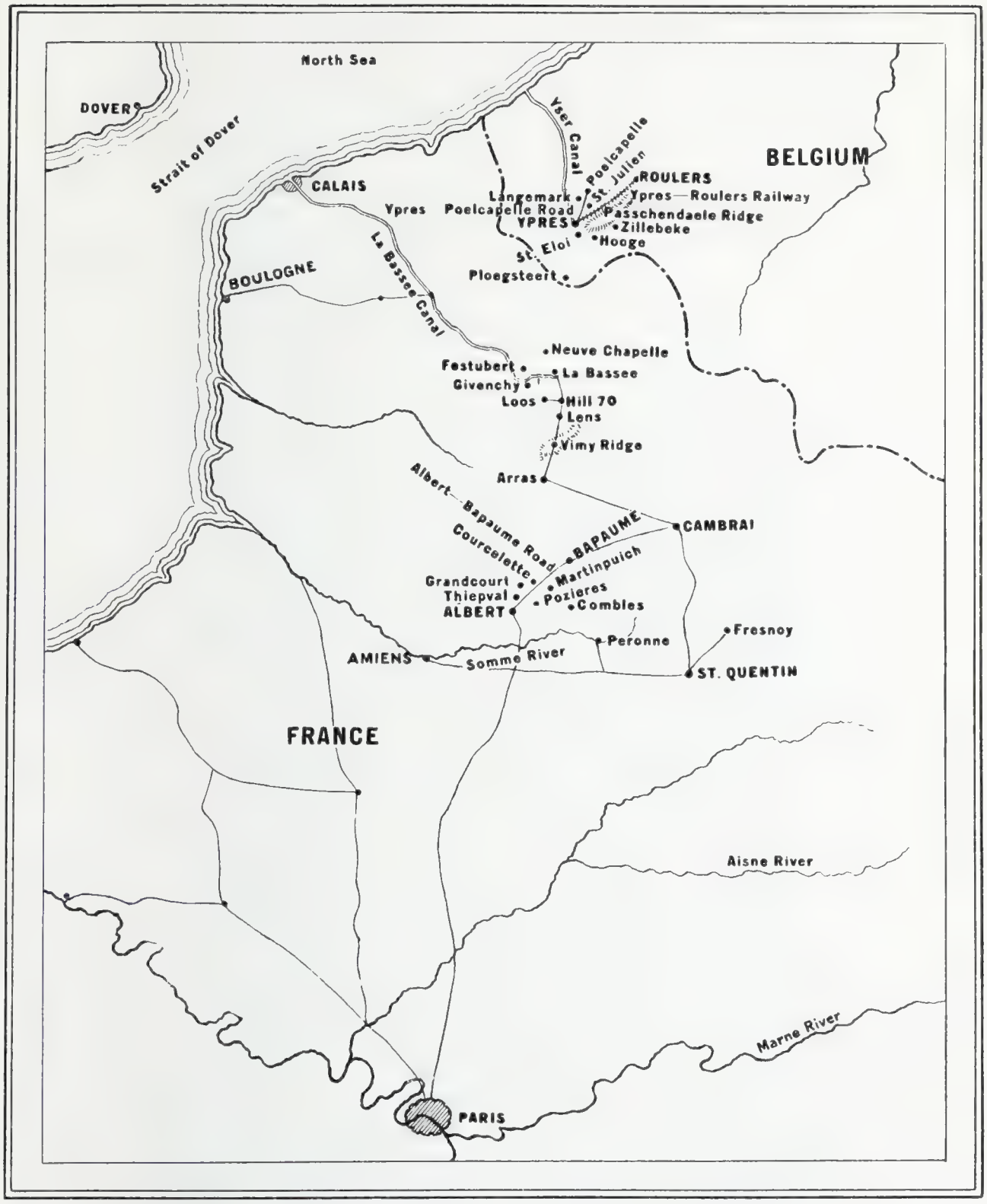
Some other large gifts should be mentioned. In the first month of the war, the Ontario Government purchased and presented to Great Britain one million bags of flour. Shortly afterwards, Quebec gave four million pounds of cheese. Other Provinces made similar gifts. Later on, Ontario built, equipped, and undertook the maintenance

of a huge military hospital in England. Nova Scotia has given machine guns, ambulances, and other war supplies. All the cities of Canada have responded nobly to the need of the present crisis. To take only one example: the city of Toronto, quite outside her creditable contributions in response to national appeals, has made huge grants for war purposes. Each of her volunteer soldiers is insured for $1,000; grants have been made for raising and equipping troops, for housing them while training in the city, for special comforts for those who have gone overseas and, recently, for the purchase of three aeroplanes. What Toronto has done, hundreds of other municipalities have done, on a scale commensurate with their resources.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—ST. JULIEN

In the spring of 1915, the German high command was preparing a "knockout" blow against Russia, and had depleted their forces in the west to perhaps fewer than 1,500,000 men. The French alone had more than that, but the Germans, by the use of their lateral railways, were able to concentrate more quickly. To cutting these railways General Joffre directed his efforts; the battles of Neuve Chapelle, Artois, and Champagne resulted.

Smarting under these lashes, and perhaps to conceal his weakness as to numbers, the enemy struck back. He chose what was known to both sides as the weakest sector of the Allied line—the Ypres salient, a semi-circular area of a five-mile radius, to the east of the Yser Canal. The defending troops to the north were French Colonials; the regular troops had been moved south. To the north-east were the Canadians, and to the east and south were other British troops. Most of the British artillery had been removed to Neuve Chapelle. Besides this, nearly all the



MAP SHOWING SITUATION OF PLACES NAMED IN FOLLOWING SKETCHES

roads led out from Ypres like spokes from the hub of a wheel. On the higher outside rim were the German forces. In spite of all these adverse circumstances, it was considered necessary to hold the salient.

It was under such conditions that the first Canadian Division registered a triumph which entitles their defence to be ranked with the earlier effort of the British Division which, fighting one against four, held back the German wave from Calais in November, 1914.

The Canadian trenches covered a front of about three miles, six miles out from Ypres to the north-east. The trenches were wet, shallow, and rather weakly constructed. About six o'clock on Thursday evening, April 22nd, 1915, observers reported a strange green vapour moving slowly from the north-east over the French trenches. The Turcos and Zouaves—utterly panic-stricken at this incomprehensible force that out of very air caught at their throats, filled their lungs, and blinded them—broke and fled, leaving behind their comrades dying with frothing lips, faces blue, eyes protruding in terror. The horses broke and ran away with their loads, causing indescribable confusion along the roads, and thus adding to the difficulties of organizing resistance.

The immediate result was a four-mile breach in the Allied line on the left of the Canadian Division. The left flank was "in the air". The Germans were rushing the gap and getting around General Turner's left toward a small wood farther back. He tried to bend back and extend his line to the wood; but the Germans got there first, and captured four British guns that had been loaned to the French. The Canadians took up a line bending back at right angles and running south of the wood.

The enemy was not to be left in undisturbed possession. Shortly after midnight an attack was made by

two thousand Canadians across the five hundred yards of open space. The German rifles and machine guns took a heavy toll. But the impetuous advance was carried, with a final shout, right into the wood, into the midst of seven thousand of the enemy. By the light of a misty moon they rushed on the foe, in his fortified centres of defence, with such resolution that soon the wood was cleared, and the Germans were to be seen hastening pell-mell from the opposite side. The gallant Canadians pressed on, and stopped not till they had ousted the enemy from his line of trenches a quarter of a mile farther on! They had retaken their guns; they had driven the foe from his threatening position, and now held him off, temporarily at least; and all by sheer valour in the face of overwhelming odds!

But on Friday morning the gap still existed on the extreme left. General Alderson had summoned hastily-gathered reinforcements through the night, and sent these, together with General Mercer's First Brigade, into the breach. It was a frontal attack on entrenched positions which the Germans had prepared only four miles from Ypres. Yet the Canadians fought their way to the shelter trench and annihilated its defenders.

Affairs had reached a crisis. The French troops had been thrown across the Canal and were being hard pressed. No adequate staff work was possible. It was a soldiers' battle, but they did not break. Fronted by superior numbers, completely out-gunned, sick with deadly fumes, without food, they held on! As in the First Battle of Ypres, the Germans had broken the line, but the very boldness of the defence prevented their doing anything in the breach. By all the rules of war the Canadians were defeated, but they failed to get the idea; so the Germans failed too!

Throughout Friday the Germans carried on a fierce bombardment of the whole salient. A fresh emission of gas was directed against the Third Brigade, and gaps were opened between St. Julien and the wood to the west. The Germans were filtering through to the rear. The men were withdrawn, fighting every foot, and placed on a line running westward through St. Julien and in the rear of the wood.

The bombardment went on through the night and, about four o'clock on Saturday morning, the second gas attack was made on the Canadians. Clouds of gas were projected from cylinders placed about every ten feet. A fog-bank of chlorine to the height of a man moved over the fields, displacing by its density the air in the trenches and along the surface. The men had no protection. It was best to stand up; running away kept them in the gas-wave, and besides caused deeper breathing. The gas drew the moisture from the lining of the lungs and filled them with fluid; men died with painful gaspings.

The much-tried Third Brigade had to drop back once more behind St. Julien. It was found impossible, without endangering the whole Brigade, to extricate two Montreal Highland regiments from the village ruins. Though the German tide rolled over the place, the sullen and persistent rifle-fire that lasted for hours showed that the Germans were not soon masters of the Canadian rear-guard.

The retirement of the Third Brigade brought the Second Brigade, under General A. W. Currie, into a serious plight. His left must fall back to conform; the right-angled bend was now in his line. Against this apex the Germans launched their fiercest assaults. Had these succeeded, the Germans would have pushed down behind

the whole British line facing east; the result would certainly not have been merely local.

Reinforcements were being brought up, and on Saturday afternoon the Third Brigade was being withdrawn. As the British troops poured through on the Canadian left, they paused long enough in their charge to raise a spontaneous cheer for Canada—the first intimation the Canadians had of the admiration which their exertions had excited in the British Army. Emulating those whom they had honoured, the British, in a magnificent tiger leap, fell upon the foe and rounded off the superb defence displayed through two terrible days. The worst was over!

On Sunday the Second Brigade followed out into reserve. But on Monday the Germans were still pressing hard, and General Currie was asked whether he could give any help. He replied, "My men are very tired, but they say they are ready". They went, as cheerfully as if their "bit" was yet to be done, across the fire zone in broad daylight and, having fulfilled the allotted task, left the trenches that night.

On Thursday, after a week of fighting the severity of which has rarely been equalled, the whole Canadian Division was withdrawn from the Ypres salient. In the midst of sorrow, there was a thrill of pride throughout Canada. Sir John French reported: The gallant work of the Canadians at Langemarck and St. Julien saved the situation".

Consider their deed. Enveloped by gas fumes deadly and undreamed of, lacking the support of heavy guns, outnumbered four to one, tired and weakened to the point of exhaustion, they held; they even counter attacked; and when they had done all, they stood! All honour to the heroes of St. Julien! In the minds of Canadians those fields beyond that city must ever be holy ground!

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields, the poppies grow
Between the grasses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved; and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe!
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch. Be yours to lift it high!
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies blow
In Flanders fields.

—JOHN MCCRAE

NOTE.—Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae, of Guelph, Ontario, and later of Montreal, the author of the foregoing remarkable poem, died recently of pneumonia in France.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—FESTUBERT, MAY, 1915

The battle of Festubert, or Aubers, as it is sometimes called, followed the struggle at Neuve Chapelle, the purpose being to secure possession of the Aubers Ridge. General Joffre was at this time making splendid progress toward the capture of the coveted city of Lens. Sir John French's plan was to aid his ally, by moving up his forces to prevent German reinforcements reaching Lens; he wished also to capture Aubers Ridge and then to join Joffre at Lens. The whole offensive was one of wide extent, and Festubert was only a part of a large scheme; but, since it was at the latter place that the Canadian troops were in action, this engagement looms large in importance in Canadian eyes.

Since the Battle of St. Julien, the Canadians had been resting in billets and, during that time, had been reinforced by reserve troops from England; on the 19th of May, 1915, the First Division was ordered forward to the battle-line. According to the official report, two companies of the 14th Battalion, under Colonel Meighen, and two of the 16th Canadian Scottish, under Colonel Leckie, first opened fire on a strongly fortified Orchard near Festubert. An advance of five hundred yards was made under such exceedingly heavy shell fire that it was deemed unwise to proceed farther toward the Orchard at that time. "Digging-in" was ordered, and connection was made on both flanks with the British.

On the morning of the 20th, orders were received to attack the Orchard that night. Two patrols were immediately sent out, and a clever reconnaissance was executed; the fact that one of these patrols narrowly escaped capture and that the other suffered some casualties, proved that the enemy was alert and that the task to be accomplished was no sinecure. That night the Canadian Scottish, with their usual resourcefulness, secretly placed two machine guns and a garrison of thirty men in a deserted house close to the German line.

The attack on the Orchard was scheduled for 7.45 p.m., and, at the same hour, the 15th Battalion was to attack another position several hundred yards to the right. Canadian guns commenced a bombardment of the Orchard early in the afternoon and continued it with increasing intensity up to the hour for the attack. Punctually at 7.45 p.m. the guns ceased, and the men went "over the top": simultaneously the machine guns from the deserted house barked forth their deadly hail of bullets. The Germans understood the move at once, and almost immediately, the ground was raked by a torrent of machine-gun fire, shrapnel, and rifle bullets. Heedless

of this withering storm, the gallant Canadian infantry moved forward with marvellous steadiness and discipline, but at the edge of the Orchard they encountered a steep ditch protected on the farther side by a barbed-wire hedge. Although this ditch was full of water, the men plunged in up to their necks and made for the gaps which the patrols had located for them. Meanwhile the German machine guns from the Orchard kept up an incessant firing, in the hope of holding off the assault till the remainder of their force (retired by the preliminary bombardment) could return in full strength to the defence. Already these could be seen approaching the Orchard; but the speed of the onslaught upset their calculations altogether; though they outnumbered the Canadians two to one, they were quickly routed, and the Orchard position and a trench were captured and consolidated.

The next step in the battle was an attempt of the 10th Battalion under Major Guthrie to take a position called "Bexhill", not far from the Orchard. Here the preceding bombardment had been ineffectual, and the trenches were swept by machine guns, so that the attack failed. On the 21st of May the attack was renewed; but the terrific machine-gun fire which met the assailants from the "Bexhill" redoubt practically annihilated the left wing; however, the force on the right carried four hundred yards of the trench; though they, too, suffered very severe losses. The chief stronghold still remained to be captured; and on May 23rd orders were received to take it. Five hundred men under Major Edgar and one hundred men of the 7th (British Columbia) Battalion were detailed for the purpose. At 2.30 a.m., May 24th, these men stole out in bright moonlight and, in spite of machine-gun and rifle-fire, constructed twelve bridges across a wide ditch which lay in the way. At 2.45 a.m., the attack was launched and, after stiff fighting, the

redoubt was occupied, and 200 yards of trench were taken. Orders came to "dig in and hang on", and these were obeyed, though an incessant artillery fire from the enemy caused severe losses in the ranks. It was a terrible ordeal that the Canadians passed through that day, and had it not been for the accurate fire of the gunners, their position would have been untenable. During this violent bombardment, the Second Brigade lost fifty-five officers and nine hundred and eighty men, but never loosened their grip of the German trench.

In summing up the operations, Sir John French says: "In the battle of Festubert the enemy was driven from a position which was strongly entrenched and fortified, and ground was won on a front of four miles to an average depth of 600 yards". And in his Empire Day despatch to Sir Robert Borden, he repeated his high opinion of Canadian troops in the following words: "It is fitting that on Empire Day I should once more tell you of the continued gallant achievements of your Canadian soldiers. They remain in the forefront of the fight, and I feel assured that their heroism and sacrifices, which are contributing so splendidly to the attainment of our immediate ends, will bind together Canada and the British Empire with those indissoluble bonds which are forged on the fields of battle".

At Festubert the Canadians were under continuous fire for ten days and eleven nights. At the end of that time, the operation was halted, and they were withdrawn to another part of the line. The objective, Aubers Ridge, had not been captured; but this was no fault of theirs. They had done all that human energy and resourcefulness could do.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—GIVENCHY, JUNE, 1915

This battle was fought on June 15th, 1915, immediately north of La Bassée Canal. It was only one of a series of engagements between the close of the battle of Festubert, May 26th, and the beginning of the great battle at Loos on September 25th; and although it will not be given a large part in the history of the campaign—Sir John French in his despatch reviewing the conflict between Festubert and Loos merely mentions the engagement—yet it was a furious action, and one in which the Canadians again showed their mettle. It is true that the fortified positions which were won here had to be abandoned later, but that was through no fault of the Canadians.

The 1st Canadian (Ontario) Battalion was detailed to secure two lines of trenches running south for 150 yards from a fortified position called "Stony Mountain" to another known as "Dorchester". Previous to the day of the attack the men, with their usual energy and ingenuity, had secretly brought up to the front trench two 18-pounder field-pieces. Fifteen minutes before the attack was timed to take place, these suddenly opened fire point-blank at the German defences only seventy-five yards away, destroying the enemy's machine guns and smashing the barbed wire entanglements. These guns naturally became the mark of the German batteries, and after fifteen minutes they were both silenced, one by a direct hit and the other by the bursting of a shell; but they had done good work in clearing the way for the infantry.

Just as the guns fired their last shot, the 1st Battalion, supported by the rest of the 1st Brigade, rose from the

trenches and raced toward the German lines. In a remarkably short time they had taken possession of "Dorchester" and the front trench. Some remained to reverse the parapet—that is to change the sandbags so that the trench would face the enemy—others charged forward to the second-line trench. Here there was a desperate resistance; many Germans were bayoneted, and others were taken prisoners. This trench, too, changed hands; and some of the 1st Company reached even the third-line trench, but this could not be held.

So much for the "Dorchester" end of the attack. The enemy's fire was much more deadly from the direction of "Stony Mountain", and the assaulting parties here suffered severely. Bombing parties sent against this fortress were almost annihilated; machine-gun and rifle-fire literally mowed down man after man, rank after rank: so that finally the Battalion had to be content with erecting barricades just south of "Stony Mountain" and with holding the second-line trench at "Dorchester". This latter was obviously a hazardous undertaking, because the trenches were raked by a flank fire from "Stony Mountain". To make matters worse, the supply of bombs ran short and could not be replenished. Four messengers who were sent back in succession for more were shot dead. The bombers were, therefore, helpless; and some idea of their chagrin may be gathered from the actions of some unknown man, who, having thrown his last bomb, stood on the parapet of the German front-line trench, hurling stones at the advancing enemy till he was shot down.

Since the terrific enemy fire from "Stony Mountain" prevented the British from advancing, they were unable to offer the Canadians any assistance. The latter held on doggedly in the face of heavy casualties till about 9.30, when they fell back to their own trenches. Though the

action had been a gallant one, it was fruitless. When it is stated that, out of twenty-three officers and eight hundred men, only three officers and two hundred and fifty men were able to return, no further proof of the grim determination of the attack is needed.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—THE CAPTURE OF COURCELETTE

The Battle of the Somme, which began at 7.30 a.m., on July 1st, 1916, lasted half a year. The strategical idea behind the offensive was not a sudden break-through, not even the capture of ground; (though, in a general way, Bapaume was the objective of the British forces, as Péronne was that of the French); but it was hoped that a steady, grinding pressure on the German lines over a wide front would wear them so thin that the whole system would collapse. This object, unfortunately, was not achieved; a rainy October alone prevented it.

The Canadian forces did not enter the battle until September, near the close of its second phase. By this time, practically the whole of the German second-line trenches had been carried, and the crest of the ridge from the vicinity of Thiépval to Combles won. Thiépval still held out and prevented serious progress along the Albert-Bapaume road. If, however, Courcelette and the heights to the north-east could be captured, the strategical problem would be greatly simplified. Such was the setting, when began the third and most successful phase of the battle.

Late in August the Canadians were withdrawn from the Ypres salient and transferred by train and transport to Albert. They relieved the Australians, the gallant conquerors of Pozières, who held lines running east and west about three-quarters of a mile north of this village.

At the left was the strongly fortified Mouquet Farm; the right connected up with British forces opposite Martinpuich.

In this third phase the British command was to experiment with a new, untried weapon—the tank. The idea of the tank was ancient. In a way it was nothing more or less than a Roman *testudo* on caterpillar wheels. The secret of its construction was well kept. Of the existence of tanks few of the troops were aware before September 14th. Even Philip Gibbs, the official war correspondent, was not let into the secret until a few days prior to the offensive. He says:

"The secret of them was kept for months jealously and nobly. It was only a few days ago that it was whispered to me.

"Like prehistoric monsters. You know, the old Ichthyosaurus", said the officer.

I told him he was pulling my leg (that is, chaffing me).

"But it's a fact, man!"

He breathed hard, and laughed in a queer way as at some enormous comicality.

"They eat up houses and put the refuse under their bellies. Walk right over 'em!"

I knew this man was a truthful and simple soul, and yet could not believe.

"They knock down trees like match sticks", he said ,staring at me with shining eyes. "They go clean through a wood!"

"And anything else?" I asked, enjoying what I thought was a new sense of humour.

"Everything else", he said earnestly. "They take ditches like kangaroos. They simply love shell-craters! Laugh at 'em!"

It appeared, also, that they were proof against rifle bullets, machine-gun bullets, bombs, shell-splinters. Just shrugged their shoulders and passed on. Nothing but a direct hit from a fair-sized shell could do them any harm.

"But what's the name of these mythical monsters?" I asked, not believing a word of it.

He said, "Hush!"

Other people said, "Hush!—Hush!" when the subject was alluded to in a remote way. And since then I have heard that one name for them is the "Hush-Hush". But their real name is tanks".

No doubt extravagant ideas were at first entertained of them. We now have a saner appreciation of their value. But the fact remains that the twenty-five tanks played a most important part in the opening stages of the third phase. They demoralized the Germans, and added confidence to an already confident, because victorious, army. They also added an element of humour to the grim business of war. Soldiers followed behind them laughing uproariously.

The offensive was set for September 15th. The morning of the day dawned bright and clear. There was a frosty nip in the air. Suddenly the British massed artillery burst into a frenzy of activity. Shells of every size were hurled over the heads of the waiting infantry. Shortly after 6 a.m., the attack began.

The artillery barrage advanced stage by stage with a remarkable precision and great intensity of fire. Waves of infantry followed behind, leaping over battered trenches and ploughing through shell-torn ground. Among them burst the enemy shells. Steadily they plodded upward to the crest of the last ridge. In front lay the ruins of the famous sugar refinery. To the right lay Martinpuich, and both left and right were the trenches which were fixed as one objective.

But this did not satisfy the Canadians. Helped by the tanks—"Crème de Menthe" and several others—the forces surged forward. In vain the Germans rained a stream of bullets against the invulnerable cars. Although our men reached the refinery first, the tanks were mainly responsible for silencing the German machine-guns and enfilading the enemy trenches in the deep, snugly-protected sections of the sugar refinery. Ten officers, including a battalion commander, were taken prisoners. "Candy Trench" and "Sugar Trench", on either flank, were at

the same time stormed and captured, men from all parts of the Dominion sharing the honours.

So successful was this attack that the Corps Commander, Sir Julian Byng, decided to strike another and immediate blow at the enemy. Rapidly bringing forward the French-Canadians, who had been held in reserve, he ordered that the village of Courcelette, together with a line of trenches between Mouquet Farm and the north-western edge of the village, should be taken. In a short space of time the object was accomplished. Within twelve hours, the men from Canada had captured Mouquet Farm, the sugar refinery, and Courcelette, carried the German positions to a depth of from 1,000 to 2,000 yards on a wide front, and taken over 1,200 prisoners. In spite of desperate resistance on the part of the enemy, the Canadian losses proved comparatively slight.

But the fight was not yet over. Next day (September 16th), the 16th and 45th German Reserve Divisions pressed a vigorous counter-attack against the Canadians at Courcelette, but met with a sanguinary defeat. Daily, for a whole week, the attacks were repeated, for the loss of Courcelette imperilled the German hold on Thiépval and the ground as far as Grandcourt. The Canadians, however, hung grimly on to their conquests and, when relieved on September 26th, they had the satisfaction of knowing that never before had the Allied prospects in the west looked so bright.

The 15th of September, therefore, will ever be an historic day for Canada.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—VIMY RIDGE

"Vimy! I wonder how far that word really reaches into your imagination and your hearts?" said the eloquent Archbishop of York, in the course of an address given recently to an immense audience in Toronto. "I wonder whether you know", he continued, "what it is that your fellow-countrymen won on that occasion for the cause of civilization?"

What is Vimy Ridge and why is it that, in the future, when Canadian boys and girls look back over the pages that tell of the Great World War, their hearts will be thrilled, their blood will run faster, and their pride in their native Canada will be quickened as they read of Vimy? What was there so valuable in the capture of a ridge of hill country or so remarkable in the achievement?

To the north of the city of Arras and almost midway between that city and the city of Lens is a strip of gently-rising land, about six miles long and two miles wide at its broadest part, known as Vimy Ridge. Because of its formation and its dominating position, overlooking on the one side the great plain of Cambrai and the coal-fields of Lens, and on the other the approaches of the city of Arras, Vimy Ridge, very early in the war, assumed extreme strategic importance and became the scene of many a bitterly-contested struggle. Captured by the Germans on their first great advance in the autumn of 1914, these commanding heights assured to them their hold on Lens and its surrounding country, and formed the "hinge" of the great Hindenburg line of strongly fortified trench defences from Arras to the Aisne river, to which the Germans retreated after the Battle of the Somme.

On the morning of Easter Monday, April 9th, 1917. Sir Douglas Haig began an offensive on the West front.

extending from Lens on the north to St. Quentin on the south, a distance of about forty-five miles. This was the beginning of the first Battle of Arras, as a result of which, at the end of seven days' fighting, the British were "astride" the boasted Hindenburg line, and the Germans were forced to retreat on the whole front from Lens to St. Quentin.

To the Canadians, commanded by Sir Julian Byng, was given the honour of opening this battle by an attack on Vimy Ridge. For several days the artillery had been bombarding the position with an intensity and thoroughness of concentrated fire unparalleled up to this time in the history of the war. British and Canadian artillery were working side by side, and the Canadian "heavies" did most effective work, as in a cold, methodical manner they searched every foot of ground on the sides of the slope and the summit of the crest. The Canadian infantry, in their advanced positions, which in the course of the winter they had relentlessly pushed on until they were at the very base of the hill, waited benumbed and shivering in the wind which blew strongly from the north.

The attack had been timed for 5.30 a.m., and the officers were looking eagerly at their watches as the cold gray dawn began to lighten. For a few moments previous to that exact hour the bombardment nearly died away, and almost a silence prevailed, hushed and solemn. Then, over the top, cheering and laughing, went our brave Canadian lads, joking one another as they toiled through the awful mud and slime, following closely the creeping barrage fire. Along the whole extent of the ridge green flares arose, the enemy's signal of distress, calling for help against the impending attack. As the men, swept by the swirl of a fine but pelting rain, struggled up the slope, they saw how thoroughly the artillery had done its work. Trenches were torn to pieces, barbed-wire en-

tanglements were levelled or rolled in heaps on the ground, and the whole crest of the hill was literally blown off by the intense fire of the British heavy guns.

By the end of an hour, the whole front line of defences was in Canadian hands, and by three o'clock in the afternoon, the entire ridge was occupied, except the strongly fortified height known as Hill 145. From this fortress the enemy was exceedingly reluctant to be driven, even when he found himself attacked on three sides. So determined was the fighting that not until after sun-down was this hill finally carried. On the following Thursday the Canadians, having consolidated their positions, attacked, took possession of the outlying heights and woods from which the Germans had been directing counter attacks, and drove the enemy back into the low-lying plain beyond.

During the week's operations, the Canadian Corps captured 4,000 prisoners and great quantities of machine guns, cannon, and material. Their own casualty lists were heavy, but much less than had been estimated before the action by competent judges, who had taken into account the natural strength of the position and its importance to the enemy. The German soldiers had been ordered to hold it, no matter at what cost. By its capture the Germans had, finally, to withdraw across the plain to the mining villages on the outskirts of Lens. This position they still occupy on the anniversary of Vimy in 1918.

The following extract from the diary of a young lieutenant, a former student of the University School, Toronto, who was in the Vimy Ridge engagement, gives a vivid description of the result of artillery fire: "It is impossible to describe the ground over which we travelled; even if I could, you would not believe it. At first there was a net-work of small lakes about twenty feet across (shell holes filled with water); the spaces between these lakes

were in many cases so soft that one sank to one's knees in mud. Once I had to be pulled out. Farther on, the ground was like a rough sea, great holes, big enough to put a room in (made by 12 in. shells). There was no water in these, because they had been made quite recently. When we got nearer the Hun trench, we found great masses of wire, torn from the stakes, and rolled into shapeless bundles. This is what artillery, accurately applied, does to formidable wire entanglements. The trenches themselves were unrecognizable. The revetting had been torn and ripped out; only a few posts showed where the trenches had been ".

Another extract from the same diary relates an interesting incident: " There were three entrances, coming out at different places along the trench. These all led down to the main passage-way. There were about 60 steps; that would make the depth about 80 feet. The passage-ways were about six feet square, so men could walk about quite comfortably, and sleep there if necessary. Leading off from the passage were several rooms, 10 by 12 or 8 by 12. At one corner there was a tunnel which we did not touch, because we were afraid of a trap. At this place there were several tons of high explosive set with a trip-wire. Fortunately we had been warned against such things, and had cut all wires and made a thorough inspection before we allowed the men to move about. The dugout had been used by a machine-gun company of the 11th Bavarian Regiment, who had apparently come in only the night before, because their equipment was perfectly spotless, their ration-bags were full as well as their water bottles. In the officers' quarters there was a big supply of flare signals, telephones, and other instruments, food, etc., cigars—the very best, mineral water, and a comfortable bed.

You would think that such an underground palace would be held at all costs, especially as it was well situated, with an excellent sweeping field of fire. On the contrary, it was captured with ninety prisoners, three officers, and three machine guns, by a captain and his two runners. They threw bombs down the stairs, and then the captain sent his two men down the outer stairs, and went down the middle one himself. At the bottom he met the officers, disarmed them, and shut them in a room. He then stood round the corner and made the Huns come out in groups of three and four, until the dugout was clear".

The soil at Vimy is sacred soil, rendered sacred by the life-blood of hundreds of our fellow-countrymen who fell in that great struggle for the cause of freedom. Only the other day a monument, a huge stone mass surmounted by a cross, was unveiled by General Sir Arthur Currie, Canadian Corps Commander, as a memorial to the men of the Canadian artillery who fell there. Few of the future generations will be privileged to view this spot, but those who do so will bow their heads in silent reverence in honour of our brave heroes. But in the heart of every true and loyal Canadian the name "Vimy" will be a lasting memorial to the valour and steadfastness of the Canadian citizen-soldier and a pledge of the ever-tightening bonds of loyalty to the British Empire.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—LENS, AUGUST, 1917

Of all the battles in which Canadian troops have participated the one that furnished the most intense fighting was the engagement at Hill 70, just north-east of Lens. Now Hill 70 is really no Hill at all, but just a hummock of ground; however, the fact that it was slightly

elevated above the surrounding country made its capture a thing to be coveted, because the artillery could then command the whole city below.

Commencing early on the evening of August 14th, 1917, the British big guns poured a steady stream of high explosives into the German positions till nearly morning. Then, a short time before dawn, the batteries ceased abruptly, and the reverberation of the cannon died away to silence. The Canadian infantrymen crouched, alert, in the trenches, waiting for the command to attack. Suddenly the death-like stillness was broken by an awful roar, and every British gun within range blazed out a perfect hurricane of shells; at the same time drums of burning oil were thrown upon the enemy. The effect was stupendous; the German trenches were a mass of fire from the bursting explosives, and the burning oil, with its huge clouds of pink smoke rolling up to the murky sky, transformed the peaceful countryside into a raging inferno. It was learned afterward from German prisoners that this preliminary bombardment demoralized the enemy; many were dazed, and others deserted their posts.

At the height of the bombardment, the guns dropped a barrage fire in front of the Canadian trenches and, at 4.25 a.m., just as the first gray streaks of dawn were appearing, the men leaped over the tops of their trenches and commenced their advance. The barrage fire was flawless, and behind this magnificent screen the advancing troops mounted Hill 70 and swept along the rest of the line. Heavy fighting was expected on the crest of the Hill, where a bloody battle had previously been fought, but the resistance there was surprisingly weak. The real struggle did not come until the dwellings in the outskirts of the suburbs were reached. The barbed-wire entanglements had been swept away by artillery fire; but the

ground was honeycombed with holes, and advance over such a space in the face of an intense machine-gun fire was slow. But the infantry continued and, in ninety-three minutes, they had penetrated the enemy's line to a depth of 1,500 yards, driving the Germans out of their strongholds as foxes are driven out of their dens. This assault gave the Canadians possession of the whole position except the eastern slope—the Germans still clung to that. On the 16th of August, a column of Manitobans and British Columbians made an impetuous assault in that quarter and, in spite of a heavy barrage fire, drove the enemy back 700 yards on a front of over 1,000 yards.

The Germans evidently regarded the Canadian success at Hill 70 as a serious blow, because, during the following days, they launched attack after attack of the most determined kind to recover the lost ground. Wave after wave of the very best soldiers, among them the Prussian Guards, rolled up in mass formation toward the lost trenches; but, though they won temporary successes here and there, they were driven back each time by artillery, machine guns, and even by the bayonet. Not only did the Canadians hold what they had won during these counter attacks, but they won a new position now and then. The most important of these was a group of three trenches just west of Lens, near a railway embankment. Possession of these was stoutly contested for several hours, because they afforded the enemy a point of observation upon the new Canadian front.

A lively engagement which took place on the south side of the city must also be recorded. This was called Green Crassier, a large colliery dump at the edge of the city rather than in the suburbs. It was an elevation similar to Hill 70 on the north side of the city, and its possession would enable the Canadians to sweep with their machine guns a wide tract of country to the south.

This position was not so systematically and thoroughly fortified as Hill 70 but, since part of the ground surrounding it was inundated, it was difficult to approach.

The assault was carried out on August 23rd, preceded as usual by a protracted and intense bombardment of the German positions. The enemy was worn out by the heavy strain of the counter attacks he had been delivering, and was not in his best fighting condition; despite this, the Canadians were subjected to a most harassing fire, and there was a good deal of bayonet fighting before the enemy gave way. The foe returned to the struggle later in the day, and dislodged the Canadians from the crest of the dump, although they still clung to the side. This victory made possible an advance of from 200 to 400 yards on a front of 700 yards; and a way was opened up on the south to the heart of the city.

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS—PASSCHENDAELE RIDGE

The village of Passchendaele is perched on the top of a crescent-shaped ridge that stands as a rampart to the east and north-east of Ypres. For three years the German line lay well to the west of this ridge. In this district it was that the Canadians, between St. Julien and Langemarck, first proved to the world the stuff of which they were made. On September 20th, 1917, the British launched an attack on this front, and by October 25th, the Germans had been driven back some distance. It will be observed that the southern half of the crest of the ridge had already been gained; but just south of Passchendaele the line turned abruptly to the west, leaving that village, with the formidable Bellevue Spur, still in the hands of the Germans. Nothing indicates better the strength of

the German position at this point. While the iron jaw of the British attack was able to crush the enemy on the southern part of the ridge, it recoiled from Passchendaele as if it had bit on granite. This was the point the Canadians were set to take.

All through the night of October 25th the rain poured down; so that just before daylight, when the attack was to begin, the indescribable terrain seemed doubly impassable. At 5.45 a.m., on that dull Friday morning of October 26th, 1917, the British artillery increased its ceaseless firing to an intense barrage; and the Germans were prompt to reply. Forward moved the brave boys from the Dominion in a steady line. To such men under such conditions the impossible becomes easy. Through tough, gluey mud, floundering across shell holes up to the armpits in the slimy ooze, sprayed by German shrapnel, likely at any moment to be annihilated by a high explosive shell or suffocated by gas, they moved calmly forward with firm jaw and steady nerve. Soon they had reached the base of the ridge and moved up its slope, fighting for every inch. Here the ground was better, but they began to be impeded by the remains of former German trench lines. Through the tumbled ruins battered to bits by shell fire, over endless lines of old twisted wire strung everywhere among the debris, rushing, bombing, storming concrete position after position, they gained Bellevue Spur, mastered all its defences, and reached their ultimate objective. The pivotal position that Hindenburg said must be held at all costs was already as good as won.

Some of the Canadians who were stationed on the ridge to the south of Passchendaele pushed northward toward the village, and had a comparatively easy time. Those moving from the west straight up Bellevue Spur met with the most vigorous resistance. During the afternoon the

Germans made two counter attacks, but in neither did they ever reach the Canadian lines; the first was crushed by the artillery, and the second was turned back by rifle fire.

It was now 6 p.m., and the Canadians had been fighting steadily for twelve hours. They still moved forward and swept the road of all enemies. By 8 p.m., the rain and storm were over, and the moon shone bright. After as stern and determined a piece of work as men ever set out to do, the Canadians occupied the line which they had resolved to reach.

Such was the first day of the attack on Passchendaele. The Canadians had secured Bellevue Spur; but the highest part of the ridge still lay in front of them, and further to the east was the ruined village which must be wrested from the enemy. Throughout Saturday and Sunday there were violent artillery duels, but no infantry attacks.

In the clear, cool dawn of October 30th, the Canadians again went over the parapet. The enemy anticipated the attack, and their barrage was the first to begin; but the Canadians pushed upward, for that day their objective was the culminating crest of the ridge. By 8 a.m., the crest had been won. But such a strategically important position was not to be held without a struggle; and no fewer than five desperate counter attacks were beaten back that same day.

On November 7th the work was completed, the whole ridge was won, and the British line extended to the east of the village of Passchendaele. Before 8.30 a.m., on that dull November morning, the village had been passed, and a rocket was sent up, indicating to the anxious watchers behind the lines that the whole ridge was cleared, and the Canadians had reached their objective.

The gaining of Passchendaele Ridge was of great strategic importance. From it the guns dominated the whole plain beyond, all roads were plainly visible, and the important town of Roulers was none too safe from Canadian guns.

TRENCH LIFE

We never knew till now how muddy mud is,
We never knew how muddy mud could be.

—*Trench Song*

Some officer has described the present war as a period of boredom punctuated by moments of intense fear. Most men would admit the fear—all would emphasize the boredom, or, as Tommy expresses it, the "fed-upness". It may seem strange at first that this should be the outstanding feature of the greatest war in the history of the world, a war in which more new instruments and agents of destruction have been brought into play than in all other wars combined. The reason for the boredom is to be found in the fact that, up to March, 1918, there has been little or no open fighting. After the Marne, the struggle settled down to a pitiless, ceaseless grinding, and it is generally rather difficult to tell which is the nether millstone.

In this war we never hear of be-plumed cavalrymen on coal-black chargers sweeping down on the enemy in mad career, nor of batteries of field guns wheeling into action at a gallop, in full view of the enemy. Millions of inconspicuous khaki or blue-gray men, generally crusted with mud, crawl about several hundred miles of trenches and tunnels with as little ostentation and warlike pomp as possible. Like the Cyclops, they dwell in hollow caves, and each Colonel utters the law unto his children and

recks not of the others except when the Brigadier comes around.

The Germans boasted, at the beginning of the war, that they had guns of sufficient power and range to wipe all opposing forces off the face of the earth. This boast was true—or as nearly true as a German boast ever is—and so the obvious thing for the Allies to do was to get off the face of the earth before the wiping act began. Wherefore they digged themselves ditches and "earths" like unto the earths of badgers, and they have dwelt therein ever since.

Trenches are like the suburbs in a great city. You are faintly conscious that people live in the next street, but you never see them. Your neighbours are as self-contained and silent as yourself. Sometimes their look-outs or machine-guns become loquacious; then you, too, grow conversational; and the whole line talks freely to the Germans two hundred yards away. It is only when your "stunt" in the front line is temporarily over, and you are marched back to billets, that you are able to cultivate your neighbour's exclusive society.

The front line or "fire" trench, as it is called, is the trench nearest the enemy. In front of the fire trench is a barbed-wire entanglement. This barrier is slightly lower than the parapet of the trench, and is about ten feet in front of it; thus allowing sentries in the trenches to observe and fire over the top of the wire. It is constructed by driving stakes firmly into the ground and twining the barbed wire about them in as intricate and criss-cross a manner as possible, so that it is a physical impossibility for soldiers to get through, unless the entanglement is first blown up by shell fire or cut with wire-cutters. This barrier is about twenty feet from front to rear, and extends in a practically unbroken line along both sides of the west

front. The Germans use iron stakes; the Allies, wood. Many a soldier, crawling about in the darkness, engaged in patrol work or bombing raids, owes his life to this; for, if he feels an iron post, he knows he is near a German trench, and withdraws as unobtrusively as possible.

The fire trench is from six to eight feet deep, and is divided into "fire bays", the fire bay being the distance, about thirty feet, between two "traverses". The traverse is a barricade in the trench reinforced with sandbags and "revetted" with branches of trees or poultry netting, to keep the earth from slipping in wet weather. The traverse is to prevent enfilading fire. If a trench were built straightaway in a direct line, the Germans could sweep hundreds of yards of it with machine-gun fire. Again, if a shell should burst in a straight trench, it would wound or kill many men on its right and left. In a traversed trench, a shell can do damage only in the fire bay in which it lands; and Tommy is an expert at making a quick exit around the traverse on such an occasion.

The front wall of the trench is called the "parapet", the rear wall is called the "parados". The top of the front wall is reinforced with two to four layers of sandbags, covered with earth. Cleverly disguised loopholes for observation and sniping purposes are constructed in the parapet. Saps, or small narrow trenches, skilfully disguised, run under the barbed wire out into No Man's Land, and are known as "listening posts" or "bombing saps".

At the bottom of the front wall of the fire bay is constructed a heavy wooden platform about two feet wide and two and a half feet high, strongly reinforced underneath by sandbags. This platform is called the fire step and, by standing on it at night, soldiers can look over the top of the parapet, listening and observing for undue

activities on the part of the Germans in No Man's Land. During an attack, the men can stand on the fire step and rest their rifles or mount machine-guns on the top of the parapet, and thus cover the advancing enemy.

Dugouts and bomb stores with shell-proof covers are built into the wall of the trench—generally into the parados behind a traverse, so as to protect the entrance from shell fragments or enfilade fire.

Running back from the fire trench are the communication trenches. These are about three feet wide, and are built in zig-zag formation, to prevent their being raked by enemy fire. They are generally "one-way streets", that is, one trench is used for the entrance, another for the departure of troops. At intervals are built recesses, into which stretcher-bearers, ration-carriers, or others, may step, while troop movements are in progress.

In the rear of the front line, there runs a support trench, with barbed wire and fire steps like the front line. Here are kept various stores, such as food, ammunition, bombs, etc. From it reinforcements can be quickly supplied to the front line, and it forms a fort if the troops are forced out of the fire trench. Immediately in the rear of these trenches is generally a ruined village, where reserves are quartered in bomb-proof cellars, dug deep below the shattered houses.

At a varying distance behind the trenches is usually to be found a road, with steep banks on each side, into which the communication trenches lead. In the banks are "elephant dugouts", twenty to forty feet deep. These are supported by steel girders, and each can comfortably accommodate from thirty to fifty men. They are often well furnished and electric-lighted. Many German dugouts had carpet or linoleum on the floors, papered walls, easy chairs, pianos (looted, of course), and other indica-

tions that the occupants had come to stay. Reserve troops, dressing stations, and battalion headquarters occupy elephant dugouts. All communication trenches, dugouts, and roads are named, and while Tommy's nomenclature may disregard geography, it is rich in imagination. Hyde Park Row, Whitechapel, Hindenburg Alley, Yonge Street, Rosedale, may all be in the same sector. "My Little Gray Home in the West" is next door to the Ritz-Carlton; a little farther along are "Vermin Villa", "Rat's Retreat", and "The Suicide Club". One wag hung on a dugout entrance this sign: "To let. All modern inconveniences, including gas and water".

Away behind the front are located the rest billets. "Rest" is in most respects a misnomer, because troops in billets have to drill, repair roads, dig trenches, act as carrying-in parties, and withal keep spotlessly clean and fit. This is essential, because the least slackening means inefficiency and mischief.

"An army marches on its stomach", said Napoleon; he might have added with even more truth that it also fights on its stomach. Put a soldier in the front line, cold, wet, covered with mud, *his stomach empty,* and he becomes indifferent—nay, he even "looks for" a wound which will take him to "Blighty". But if the same soldier has a warm feeling in the region of his stomach, and has to let out a couple of holes in his belt, he feels that the people at home can't be blamed for the mud and the wet, and it is his business to give Fritz "what is coming to him". Hence he "carries on" to the last ounce of his strength and the last drop of his blood.

The rationing of the British army is practically perfect, and rarely or never breaks down. Every twenty-four hours the Army Service Corps brings up rations to the brigade quartermaster. This officer divides them into

lots, according to the numerical strength of the units to which they will be issued. By a further process of division, the supplies reach the company or battery stores. In each platoon a non-commissioned officer, usually a corporal, is detailed to draw and issue the rations for his platoon. Such supplies as fresh meats, tea, coffee, and flour are turned over to the company cooks by the quartermaster-sergeants, the individual soldier handling only "dry rations" like bread, canned goods, jam, biscuits, and pickles. Tommy spends much spare time cooking, and, for originality if not for delicacy, his dishes would put a French chef to shame. Here is a favourite recipe: Cut fine half a pound of cheese, mix with a tin of canned beef, add bread crumbs and all the bacon grease available. Fry over a candle in a mess-tin and *eat quickly,* because, if the odour spreads, a crowd will gather, and you will either be lynched or forced to divide, according to the humour of the spectators. Fearful and wonderful puddings are made from "plum and apple" jam, bread crumbs, and tea, with any other ingredients which come handy. Hot tea is the usual solvent for shaving soap. It may be a trifle sticky, but it has a wonderfully softening effect on the stiffest whiskers, and is said to be a most beneficial demulcent.

When a soldier is in the front line, his menu will "take a tumble", because great difficulty will be experienced in bringing up hot food, especially if the Germans are bombarding. Under cover of darkness, usually about nine o'clock, the company transport—fifty men with mules and limbers—brings the rations to the entrances of the communication trenches. Here they are turned over to the company-sergeant-major, and through him distributed to the individual men. Each soldier carries what is called emergency, or "iron", rations, not to be used

"except in dire necessity". These consist of a tin of corned beef, four hardtacks, oxo cubes, dry tea, and a little sugar. All fire and smoke must be very carefully screened, so as not to draw enemy artillery fire.

Life in the trenches is one long struggle for existence, in the course of which men have developed those acquired characteristics whereby the birds of the air and the beasts of the field maintain themselves in a world of carnage. Five sixths of the soldiers sleep stertorously in their holes by day, but by night they are as wakeful as owls and no less predatory. They can walk delicately as hares, see in the dark like foxes, and wriggle like creeping things. They have learned to select the proper background in the moonlight, and to stand with muscles rigid like a setter, when a star-shell dissolves the security of the night. They study to dissemble with their lips and, when on listening post, talk with the trenches by pulls on a fishing-reel. They never sheathe their claws, and even working and wiring parties wear their panoply as though it were the integument of nature. Even bayonets are never unfixed unless the moon is very bright.

The men are numbered off in threes from the flank, and one of the three watches for two hours, while the others work filling sandbags, repairing parapets, and strengthening entanglements. Every half-hour the N.C.O. on duty creeps around to report, to post, or to relieve; all this is done stealthily and with amazing economy of speech. Also at night some of the men develop the most primitive of all instincts, and crawl out on their stomachs with a hand grenade, to taste the joy of killing. At dawn pick-axe and spade are laid aside, the rum ration is served out, and all men "stand to", for dawn is the hour of their apprehension.

Except during a period of offensive, one day in the trenches is very much like another. Everyone knows that sometimes for weeks the official communiques say "comparative calm prevailed along our entire front", or "there is nothing to report", or "only local artillery activity". But life in the trenches even on the calmest of days is full of adventure, highly seasoned with danger. Snipers, machine-gunners, artillerymen, airmen, engineers, vie with one another in skill and daring to secure that coveted advantage—"morale".

Sometimes a debonair young subaltern comes along with a pretty toy from Vickers's called a trench mortar. He is on the look-out for a good "pitch". Often he is anything but welcome, because the men know that, as soon as the Huns locate the cause of their discomfiture, their section of trench will become the object of unpleasant attention from German artillery. Everyone, therefore, assures the R.G.A. man that there is a much better place for his pet a little farther on. If, however, Fritz has been indulging in a little "hate", a trench mortar is most welcome; and men crowd around like school-boys, in delighted anticipation of the fun. Then, as the bomb sails in a leisurely arc toward the enemy trench, they watch anxiously, and if a hit is made, they hurl such disrespectful salutes as "Gooten morgen, you Proosian sausage-wallopers". Later in the day comes the "sanitary officer" or "Smells"—neither of which names has anything to do with the personal habits of the gentleman. His satellites squirt various mixtures around trench bottoms and dugouts, to dissipate lurking gas. Occasionally a "forward officer" from a battery in the rear comes, followed by a signaller with a field telephone. Presently he begins to talk familiarly to his guns in that laconic language which gunners love, such as "One hundred. Twenty

minutes to the left". Then there is a sound of invisible wings aloft, and the shells begin to sail in the general direction of Berlin. Portions of German wire, or German parapets, or of Germans themselves are scattered about. This is "local artillery activity".

All this disturbs Tommy not at all, and bores him a great deal. He "grouses" without ceasing. He grumbles at the food, at the restraints of military discipline, and at the paltry pay he receives. He seems to regard his country as a miserly employer exacting his last ounce of energy for a wretchedly inadequate wage. He never talks about "the Flag" or "Old England" or "the Cause of Liberty"—if he ever tried, the whole platoon would walk right over him with their boots on. As for any mention of mother or father, one would think half the army were orphans and the other half posthumous sons.

But if Tommy has no sentimentality, he has plenty of real sentiment. There is a cry of "stretcher-bearers on the double", and a poor fellow leaves the fire trench for the last time. As the pathetic little party passes along the trench, the bearers are met every few steps with, "Who is it?" "Where did he get it?" and when, as too often, the answer is, "Copped it through the head; gone west", the real Tommy is seen. By his silence, not by his words, he is known. Later, three or four boys who knew the dead man best, sit down to compose a letter to his people. Innumerable starts are made and discarded; each is afraid of blundering, of causing unnecessary pain by an indelicate revelation of the facts, and equally is he afraid of being "sloppy". There is a feminine fineness about their concern which is beautiful to see.

And so the days, the months, the years pass. A Battalion comes up, "takes over" its portion of front line, goes back to billets minus some well-known faces, refits,

and takes over again. As a high officer said one day, watching an attack, "It's Hill 60 again. My old regiment's up there. And to-morrow the casualty returns will come in. Will it never end?"

THE SCHOOLS AND THE WAR

The schools of Canada have played a very important part in connection with this world-wide war. The present generation is indebted in no small measure to the teachers of Canada, for its knowledge of British history and British ideals, and for its reasoned, yet intense, loyalty to the British Empire. When the war broke out, the teachers turned enthusiastically to the task of explaining to pupils, and often to the public, the causes of the war and the part that the British Empire was taking in the conflict. Never before have belligerent governments taken so much trouble to educate their people, and to show that they had followed the correct course both before and after the declaration of war; and never before have the schools been assigned so large and so important a task in moulding public opinion.

The work done in the schools of Ontario may be taken as an example. Soon after the war began, the Department of Education decided that, in all Provincial schools, instruction should be given about the war, and that questions about the war should be added to history papers in all Departmental examinations. Teachers were already discussing it with their classes, especially in teaching history and geography; but the work now became regular and systematic, and must have had a very great influence in giving pupils a more adequate knowledge and a more intense enthusiasm for the cause of the Allies. How important this was is shown by the fact that thousands of the school boys who were being instructed in

1914 and 1915 are now serving voluntarily at the front, or have already made the supreme sacrifice for their country and their Empire.

The schools have been centres of enlightenment and instruction with regard to conservation of resources and production of food and munitions for the Allies. Through the pupils the homes have been reached, and the work of the Food Controller has been made more effective; and through the work of school boys and school girls, Red Cross funds and supplies have been secured, farms have been more fully worked, and munition factories have been run to capacity. Early in the war the Department of Education granted exemption from examination to boys who remained in the High Schools till Easter with satisfactory records, and then enlisted. In 1916, when the need of greater production became apparent, the same liberal treatment was accorded to those who worked for at least three months on the farm. How greatly this regulation encouraged farm work and hastened enlistment, may be seen from the record of candidates who qualified for certificates in 1916 and 1917 under the special regulations.

1916

I *Farm Employment*		
Number of candidates granted Junior High School Entrance certificates	1;140	
Number of candidates granted Junior Public School Diplomas	26	
Number of candidates granted Lower, Middle, and Upper School certificates, including Matriculation	1,570	
		2,736
In addition to the above, Principals of High and Continuation Schools report the number of candidates for promotion to be...		803
II *Enlistment*		
Number of candidates granted Lower, Middle, and Upper School certificates	159	
Number of candidates granted complete or partial Matriculation	239	
		398
Grand total		3,937

1917

I *Farm Employment*		
Number of candidates granted Junior High School Entrance certificates	2,764	
Number of candidates granted Junior Public School Diplomas	81	
Number of candidates granted Lower, Middle, and Upper School certificates, including Matriculation	3,952	
		6,797
II *Enlistment*		
Number of candidates granted Lower, Middle, and Upper School certificates	43	
Number of candidates granted complete or partial Matriculation	111	
		154
Grand total		6,951

Generous as was the response of the schools in 1916 and 1917 to the appeal to assist in production, it will undoubtedly be much more generous in 1918, both because the farmers have come to recognize the value of the services rendered by the boys and girls, and because the pupils have grasped the seriousness of the demand for more food. It is hoped that 25,000 Canadian High School boys will work on farms this summer, and that 15,000 of these will work in Ontario.

School girls have done noble work in providing Red Cross supplies, and, in addition, have done valuable work on the farms. Many helped the farmer's wife; some even worked in the fields; but perhaps their most notable service during the summer months was the assistance they rendered in the harvesting of Ontario's fruit crop. Over twelve hundred college girls, High School girls, teachers, business girls, and others worked on the farms of Ontario for periods varying from five months to two weeks, picking fruit, and doing other work connected with the fruit industry and truck farming. Many High School girls who engaged in this patriotic work secured certificates on the same liberal terms as those granted to the boys.

Every school in the Province has a lengthening honour roll. School-boys and former school-boys have enlisted by the thousand, and have proven by their deeds on the battlefield their devotion to their country, to justice, and to the cause of humanity. Many, very many, of them already sleep beneath the fields of France or Flanders. And teachers also have done their share of fighting as well as of teaching. Some have already "done their bit", and have returned to their work in the class-rooms; thirty-four have laid down their lives for their country; many are still battling in the cause of human freedom. The following table taken from the latest report of the Minister of Education gives the details:

ONTARIO TEACHERS WHO HAVE ENLISTED FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE

According to the reports received to date from Inspectors and Principals, teachers have enlisted for Overseas Service from the several grades of schools, as follows:

Those who have made the Supreme Sacrifice:		
High Schools	7	
Public Schools	22	
Normal School Students who did not complete their Courses	2	
Special and Temporary Teachers	3	
Total		34
Those who have seen Active Service and have returned		15
Other Enlistments Reported:		
High Schools	57	
Public Schools	349	
Normal and Faculty Students	36	
Special and Temporary Teachers	28	
Total		470
Others who offered their services and who were either rejected at once as not physically fit or served for a time in Canada and were then honourably discharged		23
Grand total		**542**

CONSERVATION AND PRODUCTION

Early in the war it became apparent that munitions were almost as important as soldiers, and that if the Allies wished to defeat the Germans, they must increase manifoldly their production of all kinds of munitions. After the war had lasted for two years, it was plain that the world was running short of food, and that the production of foodstuffs on a vaster scale was just as vital for Great Britain and her Allies as the manufacture of munitions or the raising of battalions.

Canada produced few munitions of war before 1914; but her manufacturers responded quickly to the demand, and within two years, hundreds of factories were working on war material. The Canadian Government and foreign Allied Governments placed large orders with Canadian firms; but through the Imperial Munitions Board a still larger volume of business has come. On February 26th, 1918, Hon. N. W. Rowell announced that up to that date munitions to the value of $1,100,000.000 had been ordered in Canada through the Imperial Munitions Board, and that already $875,000,000 had been expended in respect of these orders. From 500 to 600 factories are manufacturing munitions, and between 250,000 and 300,000 workers are employed making war material. Canada has machined 53,000,000 shells: 40,000,000 brass cartridges, weighing three and a half pounds each; and 58,000,000 copper bands. At one time last summer she was producing of one projectile fifty per cent. of the total number used by Great Britain in all her armies.

One of Canada's most striking achievements is in connection with the manufacture of aeroplanes and the supplying of recruits for the Royal Air Force. Mr. Rowell's words may well be quoted in this connection:

"We have had phenomenal success in the airplane industry, and we are now producing more than three hundred airplanes a month. We are supplying all the planes used by the Royal Flying Corps in 500 encampments, and also supplying planes to the United States Government to a large extent. . . . The sum of $10,000,000 has been spent in airplane plants and aerodromes in Canada. . . . Young Canadians supply more than twenty-five per cent. of the entire flying force of the British Empire, and a young Canadian, Major W. A. Bishop, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., of Owen Sound, Ontario, holds the record of all the men of our Empire in the number of German machines brought down".

Canada is doing much to defeat the German submarine: directly, by building small craft for the navy, and indirectly, by building ships for service on the Atlantic. Orders have been placed in Canada for 350,000 tons of steel and wooden ships at a cost of $64,000,000. In addition, the Government has adopted the policy of creating a Canadian government-owned mercantile marine, and is arranging, not only for the construction of the ships in Canada, but for the rolling of the ship plates here.

The war has stimulated greatly the production of foodstuffs, and in 1915 Canada had under cultivation 5,703,785 acres more than in 1914; but, owing to the large number of enlistments, the acreage in 1916 for the whole of Canada was slightly less. In Ontario the decrease was large, and would have been larger, had it not been for the work of the Organization of Resources Committee, which, with the aid of the press and by personal work among the farmers, persuaded the latter to sow thousands of acres which would not otherwise have been cropped. This Committee and other organizations continued their work in 1917, with the result that in Ontario, 367,000 acres more were put under crop than

in 1916; and it is believed that, despite the present great shortage of labour, the total for 1918 will be much larger. How greatly the Canadian producer has benefited from larger production and war prices, may be judged from the following figures showing the value of Canadian field crops for the past three years.

1915:— $825,370,600
1916:— $886,494,900
1917:—$1,089,687,000

A very important development in farming is taking place in Ontario, through the rapid introduction of farm tractors. This is largely the result of the action of the Ontario Government in purchasing tractors and ploughing land for the farmers. Between April and November, 1917, one hundred and twenty-seven tractors were put in commission, and altogether about 25,000 acres were ploughed, despite the fact that some of the machines worked only a short time. In order to encourage the farmers to buy tractors, a course in farm power was given at the Ontario Agricultural College, for the first time, in January, 1915, with 155 boys and men in attendance. The most important result of these efforts has been the purchase by Ontario farmers of more than 400 tractors.

The work of the Ontario Department of Agriculture among the children of the rural schools has produced rather striking results. The small "potato war plots", planted and cared for by rural school children, netted $1,843 in 1915; of this amount $1,700 was expended for a motor ambulance now in France. The sale of patriotic buttons at rural school fairs raised $2,689 in 1916, and $3,028 in 1917. With the proceeds, two motor busses have been purchased; and a large surplus remains to be used for other patriotic purposes.

The gardens of Canada are no mean factor in the fight against starvation. Thousands of men and boys

who cannot go to the farms are cultivating gardens, and doing valuable war service. The Port Arthur Garden Club raised $26,500 worth of produce in 1917 on vacant lots, many of which had never before been broken. The Ottawa Vacant Lot Association realized $26,000 on an expenditure of less than $2,400.

Not less important than increased production is the careful, conscientious conservation for the armies and the civilian population of the Allied countries of as large a share as possible of the foodstuffs raised in Canada. The Food Controller has bent his energies, primarily, to conserving food, not to controlling prices, although prices have often been kept within reasonable limits. By educating the public, by licensing dealers in foodstuffs, by regulating flour-mills and packing-houses, by encouraging the use of fish and vegetables in place of meat and bread, and by imposing on hotels and restaurants drastic food regulations, he has succeeded in saving enough beef, bacon, and flour to provide these foods for an army of 500,000 men. At the same time he has done much for the Canadian consumer. If we still buy sugar at a fairly reasonable price, it is because the Canadian and American Food Controllers were able, first, to make the Cuban growers accept a reasonable price and, secondly, to limit the profits of both refiner and retail dealer.

Much has been accomplished in both production and conservation, but the Canadian people, with others, must do more, must do their utmost in 1918, if Allied armies and Allied peoples are to escape starvation. And Canadians will do their utmost when they understand the situation. How serious it really is may be judged from the following statement contained in the recent report of the Food Controller: "If the people of France and Italy starve (and they are on the verge of starvation), and if their armies are not fed up to the standard of

fighting strength, the war will be lost. We must bear in mind, too, that before the next crop is harvested there will be six million men—British, Americans, and Canadians—in arms at the French, Belgian, and other fronts —men taken away from productive pursuits—to be victualled as well. If there be not enough food raised and saved so that we can spare for overseas the amount necessary there, then again the war is lost. I have tried with all earnestness, and the Food Control Administration has tried with all its might, to impress upon the public the great seriousness of production. And along with production go the other essentials, to discourage waste, to conserve to the utmost everything that is of the nature of food, to economize and substitute in the use of foods of all kinds, so that an equivalent may go abroad".

EDUCATION AFTER THE WAR

"In peace prepare for war" may be a debatable maxim depending upon the attitude of the world; but the converse, "In war prepare for peace", is surely sound teaching. War is an incident, peace is the essential condition of society. It is well, then, to look forward and prepare for the return of that peace for which all so fervently hope.

The tests which the war has brought have taught Canadians much about themselves. It has been proved, beyond a doubt, that the heart of the Canadian people is strong and loyal, that, when the stability and the honour of the Empire are at stake, Canada will withhold nothing that will contribute to its support.

Canadian soldiers, trained only in the arts of peace, have shown that they can, when called upon to defend a just cause, excel in the activities of war. They can fight

and fight hard. The Dominion is proud of them, the Empire honours them, and the world respects them. They are supported by a strong public sentiment and by the loving devotion of friends and admirers at home. The women of Canada have shown that they are worthy of the men who have so valiantly defended the nation's cause, that they are not unwilling to suffer and sacrifice, if, by so doing, they can have a share in the triumph of right.

The war has reminded Canadians that they possess national resources that are worth conserving and developing, that freedom from want and famine depends upon the development of these resources, that the world, even in normal times, is living close to the limit of its essential supplies, and that these supplies depend absolutely on the thrift, the energy, and the intelligence of the people. This has made still clearer the necessity of giving every citizen an education that will render him intelligent, resourceful, and confident.

Such an education must, for the present, develop in two directions. It must provide for the education or the re-education of the soldiers who have returned wounded or weakened in defence of their country's cause, and it must place within the reach of every boy and girl a course of study that will inspire to the highest ideals.

The re-education of the soldier is for Canada a new experiment, but in its very novelty and in the stress, both of necessity and affection, under which the work is being carried on, may be the possibility of its success. The work of the men on the field of battle has brought many surprises. They have surprised the enemy, their Allies, the Empire, and even themselves. They have accomplished the most difficult tasks and have surmounted incredible obstacles. They have met the enemy, often on very unequal terms, and have triumphed gloriously. They

have preserved their country's honour and perhaps its very life. For these things Canada owes them much. This debt must be paid, in so far at least as to render as easy as possible their return to civilian life.

A part of this education will be a continuation of courses interrupted by the war. This is a fortunate condition. Any soldier who has a High School education or who has completed one or more years in college or university has an immense advantage. He must be encouraged to continue and complete his studies, so that he will be able to adjust himself to new circumstances and to overcome present limitations. Such a soldier is to be congratulated, and he must be given every opportunity for finishing his work in college and entering into effective and remunerative employment. In some cases, the discharged soldier must be educated along entirely new lines. This will be more difficult. While his former education will stand him in good stead, yet he may not be able to undertake the life-work for which he had planned. To have to change one's plans is often a struggle; how much greater to change one's life-work! The most discouraging condition, both for the individual and for the State, is that of the soldier who has not had the privileges of education before going to the front. He may not have caught the vision, he may not have had the outlook that an education offers. He saw his country's need better than he had seen his own, and when the call came he responded without hesitation. He returns wounded and sometimes discouraged. This man must be welcomed, and he must be taught to see the possibilities the future holds for him. For all such, inspiring teachers and a suitable curriculum must be provided. And, lastly, to the permanently shattered or disabled the debt must be paid, by giving them and their dependants every encourage-

ment and every care necessary to alleviate their suffering and to soothe their sorrow.

The education of the soldier returning wounded from battle is a passing need, the education of Canadian boys and girls, in order that they may worthily take their place in the country's activities, is a permanent necessity. Many of the best of Canada's manhood will never return; the children in the schools must be prepared to take their places, to take up the work that they laid down, and to carry it to a successful conclusion. Education has become more important than ever before. There is now no time for idleness; not one minute can be wasted. On the one hand, parents must give more thought to their children's education and less to the acquisition of wealth; on the other hand, the children must bend all their energies to preparation for citizenship.

Pupils in the schools must learn to value health and to understand its laws. They must see that one of the essentials for any child is a sound and healthy body and that, commencing with this, no Canadian boy or girl need fail to make a success of life. Canadian children must be taught to realize this country's great natural resources of farm and forest, of sea and mine, and to understand that the education which prepares them to appreciate and to develop these resources to their fullest extent will provide for the needs of the Empire and secure happy and contented homes. Such an education involves a practical knowledge of natural science as related to the operations of the farm, and of the mechanical and physical forces operative in all the varied activities of the national life. Young Canadians must learn that any labour is interesting when lighted by a knowledge of the principles underlying it, and that it should be their aim to understand these principles and to apply them in their daily work.

For children, as for adults, this war has thrown a great light upon the study of history and of human government. Those who have followed the war in all its horror and in all its glory, through daily report or more permanent record, or even in the tragic "rolls of honour", must be drawn nearer to the heart of things, and must be better able to understand the struggles of the past as revealed in history. It is not difficult to see that the principle termed "democracy" has ever been struggling for recognition, often blindly, but always with a tenacity and vigour that stopped at no sacrifice; that this democracy is still in the balance, and that it must ultimately prevail. Education must make this democracy understood, must show that it can succeed only where there is an intelligent populace, and must prepare the rising generation to apply its principles in the working out of national and civic government. Children and adults must be taught to see that, if democracy is to prevail, each citizen must seek the good of all and all must provide for the happiness and well-being of each, and that a democracy can be strong only when every citizen is ready and willing, under competent leadership, to defend it to the death.

The war has produced an added interest in the history and achievements of the British Empire. Every true Canadian is proud of his British connection. The story of Britain's "contemptible little army" in the early days of the war will thrill every Canadian boy, and he will be glad to read the record that inspired this "little army" in the time of Alfred and Richard, of De Montfort and Edward, of Drake and Cromwell, of Nelson and Wellington. The English language and English literature will glow with the stories of the march of Britons in exploration and in commerce. The free, happy, and loyal peoples, established in the four quarters of the globe, will

point to the record of Britain's method in colonization and in government, and the language that contains this record will be studied for the key to this vast treasure-house.

The war is teaching Canadians that they must play their part in a great world, a world not so large in extent as in endeavour. They see that education is understanding this endeavour in relation to the world in which it is accomplished, that present society, hopeful and forward-looking, has developed through innumerable struggles for principles which the world has come more and more to understand through trial and testing. Thus, seeing the cost of their heritage, they are better able to appreciate it and to apply their knowledge amid present social conditions. Life always has its ideals, and these ideals may be low and selfish or high and altruistic; hence a broad study of human endeavour and of human development is necessary for the creation of worthy ideals, and for the development of a type of character willing to defend them.

DIARY OF CANADIAN ACTIVITIES

August, 1914

Aug. 4. Great Britain declares war on Germany at 11 p.m. London time. Canada begins the mobilization of an expeditionary force of 20,000 men which had been offered to and accepted by the British Government.

Aug. 5. Canada buys two submarines built in the United States for Chili.

Aug. 7. German consuls in Canada are warned to leave.

Aug. 9. Dominion Government offers Great Britain 1,000,000 bags of flour; Alberta offers 500,000 bushels of oats. Both offers gratefully accepted.

Aug. 18. Special war session of Dominion Parliament opened. Canada prepares to appropriate $50,000,000 for war purposes, and sanctions the sending of 20,000 men to England.

Aug. 22. War session ends. Two cruisers added to Canadian naval forces at Esquimalt.

Aug. 24. Quebec gives Great Britain 4,000,000 lbs. of cheese.

Aug. 25. Second Canadian Contingent mobilized.

Aug. 31. Attempt to wreck a troop-train near Montreal is frustrated.

September, 1914

Sept. 24. Canadian troops leave Valcartier and embark on transports at Quebec.

Sept. 29. Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry sails from Montreal.

October, 1914

Oct. 3. First contingent of Canadian soldiers, 33,000 officers and men, the largest army that ever crossed the Atlantic at one time, sails from the Bay of Gaspé. The escort consists of H.M. ships *Charybdis*, *Diana*, *Eclipse*, with *Glory* and *Suffolk* on the flanks, and the *Talbot* in the rear. *Suffolk* replaced by battle-cruiser, *Queen Mary*, as they neared England.

Oct. 8. Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry reaches Southampton.

Oct. 14. Canadian Armada reaches Plymouth Sound in safety. Lieut.-General Alderson assumes command of Canadians.

December, 1914

Dec. 31. Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry reaches the Flanders front and joins the 27th British Division.

February, 1915

Feb. 5. A Canadian Division leaves Salisbury Plain for Avonmouth. Sails for France and arrives at St. Nazaire, Bay of Biscay. Entrains and arrives in the Ploegsteert (Plug Street) section of the line on February 13th.

March, 1915

Mar. 5. Transports carrying 4,000 Canadian troops arrive in England.

Mar. 10. Battle of Neuve Chapelle begins. Canadian artillery renders valuable services.

April, 1915

Apr. 13. Lord Kitchener calls on Canada for second expeditionary force. First force now totals 57,692.

Apr. 17. Canadians take over the line between the Ypres-Roulers railway and the Ypres-Poelcapelle road from the French.

Apr. 22. Beginning of Second Battle of Ypres. Germans discharge chlorine gas and break the French lines on Canadian left. Canadians extend lines and hold the Germans.

Apr. 25. Orderly evacuation of dangerous Canadian salient begins.

Apr. 28. End of the Second Battle of Ypres. Canadians relieved and retired to billets in the rear.

May, 1915

May 7. The Cunarder *Lusitania* sunk by a German submarine off the Old Head of Kinsale; 1,142 persons, including many Canadians, drowned.

May 9. Battle of Festubert begins. Canadians captured the Orchard by the evening of the 20th. Battle ends on the 27th. Canadians withdrawn, May 31st.

June, 1915

June 9. Canada resolves to raise a further force of 35,000 men, and opens nine camps at intervals from Nova Scotia to British Columbia for their training.

June 23. Three Canadians have won the V.C., and 70 the C.B., C.M.G., or D.S.O.,. for bravery.

June 30. Casualties of First Canadian Division to date are—killed, 1,787; missing, 1,842; wounded, 6,619; died from other causes, 167; suffering from gas and shock, 285; confined to hospital, 173; prisoners of war, 401.

NOVEMBER, 1915

Nov. 26. Canadian Government commandeers wheat in elevators from Fort William eastwards.

APRIL, 1916

Apr. 3. Canadians recapture a mine crater at St. Eloi and take 84 prisoners.

Apr. 6. The Germans retake part of the ground lost at the craters.

Apr. 20. St. Eloi craters finally abandoned by the Canadians.

JUNE, 1916

June 2. Canadian forces are forced to retreat on a 3,000 yard front to a depth of 700 yards at Sanctuary Wood in the direction of Zillebeke, between Hooge and the Ypres-Roulers railway.

June 3. Canadian counter attack retakes most of the lost ground near Zillebeke. General Mercer killed and General Williams reported missing.

June 6. Battle for Hooge begins.

June 13. Battle for Hooge ends.

AUGUST, 1916

Aug. 31. Canadian casualties to date are—killed and died, 8,644; wounded, 27,212; missing, 2,005.

SEPTEMBER, 1916

Sept. 16. Canadians capture Courcelette and 1,200 prisoners.

NOVEMBER, 1916

Nov. 8. Canada excludes all Hearst papers, and International News Service is refused use of French cables.

Nov. 13. General Sir Sam Hughes resigns as Minister of Militia and Defence.

DECEMBER, 1916

Dec. 25. Dominion Premiers invited to "Special War Conference of the Empire, not later than the end of February".

MARCH, 1917

Mar. 21. Preliminary meeting of the Imperial War Conference in London.

APRIL, 1917

Apr. 9. Canadians capture Vimy Ridge.

May, 1917

May 3. Canadians capture Fresnoy in a new attack by British forces on a front of 12 miles from south of Loos to south-east of Arras.

June, 1917

June 4. Germans retake from Canadians the electric power station south-west of Lens.
June 11. First British Company recruited in United States arrives in Canada for training.
June 20. Canadians capture German trenches near Lens.
June 25. Canadians drive Germans from first-line trenches on outskirts of Lens.
June 26. Canadians occupy La Coulotte, one mile south of Lens.
June 28. Canadian troops advance to within one mile of Lens.
June 30. Canadian drive along the Souchez Valley reported to have been attended by "a success unexpectedly great and complete".

November, 1917

Nov. 6. Canadians in brilliant dash take Passchendaele on the crest of the ridge dominating the Flanders Plain.
Nov. 7. Canadians hold Passchendaele against strong enemy counter attacks.
Nov. 10. At Passchendaele the Canadians advance 600 yards on 3,000 yards front and take 140 prisoners.
Nov. 14. Germans again repulsed at Passchendaele.
Nov. 17. Canadians capture a farm at Passchendaele.

December, 1917

Dec. 1. Dominion Victory Loan subscriptions in Canada reach $416,000,000.
Dec. 6. Terrific explosion at Halifax caused by the collision of the French munition ship, *Mont Blanc*, and the Belgian Relief Ship, *Imo*. Thousands injured and loss of life almost 1,300. A large part of the city wrecked, the damage being estimated at $25,000,000. The British, United States, and Dominion Governments each subscribe $5,000,000 for relief, and lesser sums are donated by various cities.
Dec. 17. Dominion elections show a victory for the Union Government.

NOTE.—Those who may wish to have a "diary" of this kind for all the events of the war from the beginning, with mention of the activities of the various nations involved, should write to THE SCHOOL, Bloor and Spadina, Toronto. This journal has made a feature of war topics for the past four years; all its articles are especially arranged for the teacher's use.

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE CANADIAN ARMY IN FRANCE

Commanding Canadian Corps—Lt.-General Sir A. W. Currie, K.C.B. K.C.M.G.

Commanding Canadian Divisions—
Maj.-Gen. A. C. Macdonell, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.
Maj.-Gen. H. E. Burstall, C.B., C.M.G., A.D.C.
Maj.-Gen. L. J. Lipsett, C.M.G.
Maj.-Gen. Sir D. Watson, K.C.B., C.M.G.

Commanding Canadian Artillery—Maj.-Gen. E. W. B. Morrison, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Commanding Canadian Railway Troops—Brig.-Gen. J. W. Stewart.

Commanding Canadian Forestry Corps—Brig.-Gen. A. McDougall, C.B.

OTHER GENERAL OFFICERS

Brig.-Gen. C. J. Armstrong, C.M.G.
" H. D. B. Ketchen, C.M.G.
" F. O. W. Loomis, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" F. W. Hill, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" R. Rennie, C.M.G., M.V.O., D.S.O.
" G. S. Tuxford, C.B., C.M.G.
" H. C. Thacker, C.M.G.
" J. H. Elmsley, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" J. H. Mitchell, D.S.O.
" V. W. Odlum, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" W. B. Lindsay, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" J. H. MacBrien, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" H. M. Dyer, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" W. A. Griesbach, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" E. Hilliam, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" C. H. MacLaren, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" H. A. Panet, C.M.G., D.S.O.
" J. M. Ross, D.S.O.
" W. O. H. Dodds, C.M.G.
" Rt. Hon. J. E. B. Seeley, C.B., D.S.O.
" P. P. deB. Radcliffe, D.S.O.
" V. A. S. Williams (until recently prisoner of war)
" R. F. M. Sims, C.M.G., D.S.O.

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE CANADIAN ARMY IN THE BRITISH ISLES

Commanding Overseas Military Forces of Canada—
Lt.-General Sir R. E. W. Turner, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.

General Staff Officer—
Brig.-General H. F. McDonald, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Adjutant-General—
Brig.-General P. E. Thacker, C.B., C.M.G.

Quartermaster-General—
Brig.-General D. Hogarth, D.S.O.

OTHER GENERAL OFFICERS

Major-General G. B. Hughes, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Surg.-General G. la F. Foster, C.B.
Brig.-General F. S. Meighen, C.M.G.
Brig.-General J. F. L. Embury, C.M.G.
Brig.-General W. J. Neill
Brig.-General W. St. P. Hughes, D.S.O.
Brig.-General A. E. Swift, D.S.O.

CANADIAN GENERALS IN THE WAR

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR W. CURRIE

Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur W. Currie, now in command of the Canadian forces in France, was born December 5th, 1875, near the village of Napperton, about three miles from Strathroy, in the County of Middlesex, Ontario. General Currie's father was William Garner Currie, of Irish-Scottish parentage, who came from Ireland and settled in the eastern provinces in 1830. He held many public offices, and died in 1891. His mother, who still resides near Napperton, was born in Sligo, Ireland.

General Currie was taught the "three R's" in the little Public School at Napperton, and later attended for four years the Strathroy Collegiate Institute, walking the three miles to Strathroy nearly every day. He is said to have been a manly boy, faithful in his studies, and fond of athletics.

At the age of eighteen, attracted by the lure of the West, he went to Sydney, British Columbia, where he taught school for a time. He then engaged in the insurance business with J. S. H. Watson, of *The Victoria Colonist.* This partnership continued until 1906, when he became provincial manager of the National Life Insurance Company, a position which he held for two years. Later he entered the real estate business and became head of the firm of Currie & Power, real estate agents, Victoria, British Columbia.

It was while in British Columbia that General Currie entered upon his military career. In 1895 he became a private in the 5th Regiment of the Canadian Garrison

Artillery. He received a commission in the regiment in 1900, and assumed command of No. 1 Company in 1901. This Company he commanded for eight years, during which he won the efficiency shield for seven years. He was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1902 and to that of Major in 1906, becoming Lieutenant-Colonel in 1909. In the fall of 1913 he was transferred to the 50th Gordon Highlanders of Canada, Victoria. During his command of the 5th Regiment it achieved a wonderful record in competition with all the other garrison artillery corps of the Dominion.

General Currie became President of the British Columbia Rifle Association in 1907, and retained that position for many years. Rifle shooting was his recreation. He also served through the Nanaimo strike disturbance in the summer of 1913.

When the war broke out he was among the first of the Canadians to volunteer for active service. As soon as orders were received for the Canadian volunteers to mobilize at Valcartier, he entrained with his Highland Regiment for the great concentration camp in Quebec. Shortly after reaching Valcartier he was made a Brigadier-General, and it was in that capacity that he went to Salisbury Plain and eventually to the firing line.

The first big engagement in which the Canadians took part after reaching Flanders was the Second Battle of Ypres. General Currie's Brigade, which was in the hardest fighting of that terrific struggle, was composed of the 5th, 7th, 8th, and 10th Battalions. His conduct was such that the King made him a Companion of the Order of the Bath, while France conferred upon him the Legion of Honour and the Croix de Commandeur.

At this Battle of Ypres, or St. Julien, General Currie's Brigade, the 2nd, was holding 2,500 yards of trench,

when the 3rd Brigade was forced by the German gas to retire. Currie's Brigade had maintained its lines; but, when the Canadian Highland Brigade had changed its position, it became necessary for him to repeat the tactical manoeuvres of the 3rd Brigade, against overwhelming odds. It is written of him that "in the very crisis of this immense struggle he held his line of trenches from Thursday at 5 o'clock till Sunday afternoon; and on Sunday afternoon he had not abandoned his trenches. There were none left. They had been obliterated by artillery. He withdrew his undefeated troops from the fragments of his field fortifications; and the hearts of his men were as completely unbroken as the parapets of his trenches were completely broken".

In September, 1915, General Currie succeeded General Alderson as General Officer Commanding the First Canadian Division.

His Division won more glory and victories at the Somme, when, at Courcelette and Thiépval, his troops proved just as brilliant and just as successful in the offensive as they were in the defensive in the Second Battle of Ypres. The same Division, with much fresh blood, of course, again performed a brilliant feat of arms in the immortal battle of Vimy Ridge. It is General Currie's proud boast that his Division has never lost a trench.

When the King and Queen visited the Western front in 1917, General Currie accompanied them to the trenches. In June, 1917, he was appointed to succeed Sir Julian Byng in command of the Canadian Army in France. In the same month his name appeared in the birthday honours as a K.C.M.G.

Since Vimy Ridge General Currie has fought the two great battles of Hill 70 and Passchendaele. He has for some time felt the strain of three years of fighting, and

was urged some months ago to take a rest; but at the special request of the British Commander in France, Sir Douglas Haig, consented to forego a much-needed furlough.

General Currie is conspicuous by his height—6 feet 2 inches, and he is of magnificent physique. No general was ever more popular with his men.

General Currie married, in 1901, Miss Lucy S. Chaworth-Musters, of Victoria, British Columbia. Lady Currie is now in England. General Currie is an Anglican in religion and a member of the Masonic order.

Much light is thrown on his character by his recent special order of March 27th last to the Canadian Corps:

"Looking back with pride on the unbroken record of your glorious achievements, asking you to realize that to-day the fate of the British Empire hangs in the balance, I place my trust in the Canadian Corps, knowing that where Canadians are engaged, there can be no giving way. Under the orders of your devoted officers in the coming battle, you will advance or fall where you stand, facing the enemy.

"To those who fall I say, 'You will not die, but step into immortality. Your mothers will not lament your fate, but will be proud to have borne such sons. Your names will be revered for ever by your grateful country, and God will take you unto Himself'.

"Canadians, in this fateful hour, I command you and I trust you to fight as you have ever fought, with all your strength, with all your determination, with all your tranquil courage. On many a hard-fought field of battle you have overcome this enemy, and with God's help you shall achieve victory once more.

(Signed) A. W. Currie, Lieut.-Gen.,
Commanding Canadian Corps".

GENERAL SIR RICHARD E. W. TURNER

Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Ernest William Turner is a son of Hon. Richard Turner. He was born in the city of Quebec, July 25th, 1871. He was educated at the Quebec High School and in England. In civil life

General Turner is a member of the firm of Whitehead and Turner, wholesale grocers and lumber merchants, Quebec. In July, 1900, he married Miss Harriet Augusta Goodday, of London, England.

General Turner has been associated with military affairs all his life. In 1902, he commanded the Canadian Coronation escort to London. When the South African war broke out, he left his home in Quebec with the first Canadian Contingent. His splendid courage in saving the guns from the Boers, though twice severely wounded in the effort, won him the Distinguished Service Order and, finally, the coveted Victoria Cross in 1900. Word of his courage and ability reached Lord Kitchener, and afterwards, when lying in hospital recovering from his wounds, the famous General visited him, strongly advised him to remain in the army, and offered to obtain for him a permanent Commission. Subsequent considerations, however, decided him against the army as a profession, and he returned to civil life on the banks of the St. Lawrence. In 1905 he attained command of the 10th Queen's Own Canadian Hussars. In 1907 he was appointed to command the 3rd E. T. Cavalry Brigade.

On the outbreak of the present war, he was one of the first to offer his services and was appointed a Brigadier-Commander. When the first Canadian Division took the field under General Alderson, he commanded the Highland Brigade, and when the Canadian force in Flanders was increased to two Divisions, he was given command of the 2nd Division. In the Second Battle of Ypres, General Turner, by his handling of the Canadian troops, was largely instrumental in holding back the German push to Calais. For these services he was rewarded with the Distinguished Service Order, and promoted to the rank of Major-General.

At the Battle of Ypres, or St. Julien, in April, 1915, it is said that General Turner's judgment saved the situation. Disregarding instructions, he gave his famous order to the Canadians to shorten their front and throw back the left flank. Such tactics were against all precedent, but they prevented the German hordes from getting in behind the Canadians and annihilating the Division. This prompt move saved the day. Perhaps it saved Calais.

In December, 1916, Major-General Turner was appointed General Officer Commanding the Canadians in England. Of his services in this connection an authoritative statement says: "Since Major-General Turner has been in England, he has carried on with marked ability the organization and training of Canadian forces, and has been constituted by the Overseas Minister of Militia his chief military adviser in all matters relating to the organization and the administration of the overseas forces".

In June 1917 Major-General Turner was promoted to be Lieutenant-General, and in the New Year's Honour list for this year he was given a K.C.B.

GENERAL MACDONELL

Major-General Archibald Cameron Macdonell, C.M.G., 1916; C.B., 1917; belongs to the famous Glengarry Macdonells, or "Fighting Macs", members of which family distinguished themselves at Waterloo and Queenston Heights. Born October 6th, 1864, at Windsor, Ontario; educated at Trinity College School, Port Hope, and Royal Military College, Kingston. Married, 1890, Mary Maud Flora Campbell. Lieutenant of Canadian Mounted Infantry, Permanent Corps, 1888; Adjutant and Quartermaster, 1888; exchanged into Royal North-West Mounted Police, 1889. Volunteered into the Second Battalion, Canadian

Mounted Rifles, for service in South Africa, January, 1900, as Captain. Major, May, 1900; commanded four troops Canadian Mounted Rifles, and four guns, "D" Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery with Advanced Column of Sir Charles Parsons' Field Force, in the operations in Kenhardt District; took part in general advance from Bloemfontein, in command of "D" Squadron, Canadian Mounted Rifles. Was in command of the Canadian Squadron that went through the Boer lines the night of the Vet River fight. Present in the operations around Johannesburg and Pretoria, including two days' action at Klip River. Present at the Battle of Diamond Hill, June, 1900; dangerously wounded; mentioned in despatches, South African medal, four clasps; D.S.O. Organized and commanded the Fifth, or Western, Regiment, Canadian Mounted Rifles, 1902, for active service in South Africa; arrived at Durban after peace was signed. Returning to Canada, he commanded successively the Depot Division (headquarters at Regina), and the "C" Division, Battleford District, of the Royal North-West Mounted Police. Then he transferred to the Permanent Corps, taking command of Lord Strathcona's Horse and the Royal School of Instruction, Winnipeg, in 1912. On the outbreak of the present war, he went to Europe in command of Lord Strathcona's Horse. As Brigadier-General, while inspecting the front-line trenches, he was wounded in 1916. In June 1917 he was made Major-General and put in command of the First Canadian Division.

GENERAL BURSTALL

Major-General Henry E. Burstall has distinguished himself signally during the war. He was born in Quebec, August 26th, 1870, a son of the late John B. Burstall, a Quebec merchant. He was educated at Bishop's College

School, Lennoxville. In 1907 he married Frances, daughter of Dr. Mackenzie, Bombay, India.

After graduating from the Royal Military College, Kingston, he served with the Yukon Force and, later, went with the First Canadian Contingent to South Africa. During the South African campaign he was more than once mentioned in despatches by Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener, and was decorated with a number of medals for distinguished service. He was appointed to command the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in 1907 and, since 1911, was on the Permanent Force as Inspector of Horse, Field, and Heavy Artillery, and also in command of the Royal School of Artillery, Quebec.

When the war broke out, he left Canada in command of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. Since then he has occupied important Artillery commands in England and at the Front. In June 1915 he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath. In September 1915 he was appointed Brigadier of the General Royal Artillery. In December of the same year he was made a Brigadier-General, and in 1917 he was appointed to the command of the Second Canadian Division with the rank of Major-General.

GENERAL LIPSETT

Major-General Louis James Lipsett is an Irishman. He was born on the 15th of June, 1874, and entered the regular British Army at the age of twenty, when he was granted a commission in the Royal Irish Regiment. He obtained a thorough grounding in military matters at the various schools in Britain, and practical experience also on active service in India. He is a graduate of the Staff College, India, and among his other achievements, he qualified as an interpreter in modern languages. He saw

fighting in the operations on the north-west frontier of India in 1897-98.

In South Africa he was for some years Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General. Upon returning to England he became Aide-de-camp to the Major-General of the 2nd Division, Aldershot Army Corps, and later filled the same position with the army command at Aldershot, England's great military centre.

General Lipsett came to Canada in 1911, as General Staff Officer of the Canadian Militia in the Prairie Provinces and, when war broke out, he was given command at Valcartier of the 90th Winnipeg Rifles (the "Little Black Devils") and a company of soldiers from the Port Arthur-Fort William district. At Valcartier he soon won the confidence both of his superior officers and also of the men under him. His rapid promotion on the battlefield testifies to his ability. In peace times it took him from 1901 to 1913—twelve years—to rise from the rank of Captain to the rank of Major—one step. Since he has been at the front, he has become a Major-General in command of the Third Canadian Division.

For his distinguished service in the Second Battle of Ypres, the King conferred upon him the C.M.G., and he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General in command of four Battalions. It is officially recorded that at St. Julien, when the Canadians saved the day, his Battalion, the 8th, held the extreme left of the Brigade position "at the most critical moment". They stood their ground against German hordes and German gas from Thursday afternoon until Sunday afternoon, and the Winnipeg men, for their bravery, were singled out for special mention by the Canadian Eyewitness. One of the men in the ranks won the Victoria Cross in that Battle. On the Friday morning the Battalion was expelled from the

trenches by an emission of poisonous gas, but recovered in three-quarters of an hour and, in a counter attack, re-took the trenches and bayoneted the enemy. After the 3rd Highland Brigade had been compelled to retire, Colonel Lipsett held his position, though his left was "in the air", until two British Regiments, the Durhams and Hampshires, filled the gap.

Colonel Lipsett was one of the Canadian officers who, later in 1915, introduced something new on the Western front, namely the trench raid, which was later adopted by the British, French, and other armies. He played a big part in the Canadian victory at Observatory Ridge and Sanctuary Wood in June, 1916. When General M. S. Mercer of Toronto was killed in action during the progress of that fierce battle, Colonel Lipsett succeeded to the position of General Officer Commanding the Third Division. This Division included the Princess Patricias, the Royal Canadian Regiment, several Battalions of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, the 42nd Royal Highlanders of Canada, the 49th (Edmonton) Battalion, and other Canadian units which fought so gallantly at St. Eloi and Sanctuary Wood.

In December 1917 General Lipsett's name was mentioned in Field-Marshal Haig's despatches, and in the New Year honours for 1918 he was given a C.B.

GENERAL SIR DAVID WATSON

Major-General Sir David Watson was born in Quebec on February 7th, 1869, and educated in the Public Schools and the High School of that city. He has held various appointments appertaining to municipal and local affairs, and all his life has been connected with journalism. He joined the staff of the *Quebec Chronicle* and, after twelve years, became its General Manager. This was about 1904,

and two years later he became Managing Director. In 1909 he was a delegate to the Imperial Press Conference.

In addition to his newspaper work, General Watson took an active interest in athletics and military matters. In his younger days he was one of the most brilliant hockey and lacrosse players of his native Province. He was one of the most enthusiastic members of the 8th Royal Rifles and, when war broke out, was Commanding Officer of that Regiment with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He holds the long service medal, in addition to the other honours bestowed upon him for distinguished service in the Great War. In 1911 he was appointed by the Ottawa Government to command the Rifle Company of the Canadian Contingent which attended the coronation of King George the Fifth.

It can truly be said that General Watson was one of the first Canadians at Valcartier, because he was there before the Government bought the land for that great training camp.

When the call to arms was sounded in August, 1914, Lieutenant-Colonel David Watson left his newspaper office, mobilized his regiment, and proceeded forthwith to Valcartier. Shortly afterward he was appointed to command the Second Battalion. With these men he sailed some weeks later for England.

Colonel Watson and his Battalion arrived in Flanders, and it is officially reported that the Colonel carried himself "gallantly and resourcefully" throughout the Second Battle of Ypres, and that some of the last blows struck by the Canadians in that fierce struggle were delivered by those in his Battalion. It is further written of him that on the third day of the great battle he was called on to perform as difficult and dangerous a task as fell to the lot of any commander, and that he crowned his success with a

deed of personal heroism which, but for his rank, would have won for him the Victoria Cross.

After the Second Contingent reached the front, Lieutenant-Colonel Watson was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General of the 5th Brigade. His distinguished service and gallantry continued. He fought with distinction at St. Eloi and at other places where the Canadians were engaged, including St. Julien, Festubert, Langemarck, and Givenchy, and on one occasion was slightly wounded. He now commands the Fourth Division Canadians with the rank of Major-General.

In 1916, he was made a C.B., in 1917 a C.M.G., and in the New Year's honour list for 1918 he was given a K.C.B. He is also Commander of the Legion of Honour and Commander of the Order of Leopold. He married, in 1896, Miss Mary Browning of Quebec.

GENERAL MORRISON

Major-General Edward Whipple Bancroft Morrison, Ottawa, Ontario. Served in South Africa, 1899-1900; Queen's Medal, three clasps; D.S.O., 1900. Commanded Eighth Artillery Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, 1909-1913; Director of Artillery, Headquarters Staff, 1913-14; Officer Commanding First Artillery Brigade, C.E.F., 1914-15. Served at Second Battle of Ypres, Festubert, and Givenchy; General Officer Commanding Second Canadian Divisional Artillery, 1915-16; General Officer Commanding Canadian Corps Artillery, 1916, Vimy Ridge; mentioned in despatches; C.M.G., 1917.

GENERAL MERCER

(Killed in action, June, 1916)

Major-General Malcolm S. Mercer was born in 1864, on a farm in Etobicoke township, Ontario. He removed to Tillsonburg with his family when a boy, then went to the Collegiate Institute at St. Catharines, and finally entered the University of Toronto to complete his education. He joined the University Company but was not selected for service. He took advantage of the opportunity afforded students to take training at a military school. He enlisted as a private in the Militia, was a lieutenant in "K" Company, and rose step by step to the rank of captain, adjutant, and colonel. He had command of the body of troops sent to Sault Ste. Marie some years ago, to quell a riot there. Rifle shooting was one of his hobbies, and he urged the importance of more shooting practice for the Militia.

He went to Europe with Sir Sam Hughes in 1912, to see the manoeuvres of the English, Swiss, and French armies, and returned with the firm conviction that Europe was soon to be plunged into war. He said so openly, and began, by taking a staff officer's course, to fit himself for the day the crash should come. General Mercer succeeded Sir Henry Pellatt as officer in command of the Queen's Own Rifles.

When war broke out he offered his services, and later was appointed Commander of the Third Canadian Division. He is stated by military experts to have been one of the ablest soldiers that Canada has produced, and his rise from the ranks to the position of Major-General was the result of thirty-six years of efficient service in Canada's Militia.

It was General Mercer and his men who broke the apex of the German wedge on its way to Calais in 1915. His

Battalions saved the situation that day, and prevented the Huns from dividing the Allies' line and getting through to the coast. On June 2, 1916, in an engagement at Zillebeke, he was reported wounded; but a later report proved that he had laid down his life for his country.*

In June, 1915, he was honoured by the King by being made a Companion of the Order of the Bath in recognition of his services.

The story of his passing is as follows: Major-General Mercer was making a tour of the front-line trenches on the morning of June 2, 1916. He had some premonition that the Germans on this particular morning intended an offensive, and was making an inspection in order to be sure that everything was in readiness. True to his expectation, the Germans suddenly sent over a hail of shells which formed a barrage between the front-line trenches and the Canadian Divisional Headquarters. General Mercer was stunned by the explosion of a shell which burst close by, killing and wounding several of his staff officers. Realizing the importance of returning to Headquarters, General Mercer tried to fight his way back, in spite of the barrage danger facing him, but he fell, mortally wounded, while making the brave attempt. His body was found with three wounds in it in Armagh Wood. He was buried at the front.

General Mercer's "gallant and distinguished conduct on the field" caused him to be twice mentioned in War despatches by Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig.

NOTE.—*In the same engagement Brigadier-General Victor Arthur Seymour Williams, a famous Canadian soldier, commanding a Brigade of the 3rd Division, was taken prisoner by the Germans. After being held in a prison camp near the Dutch frontier for nearly two years, he was recently reported as being returned to England with other invalid British officers.

GENERAL HUGHES

Major-General Garnet Burk Hughes, born April 22nd, 1880; eldest son of Major-General Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia and Defence, 1911-1916. Educated at the Royal Military College, Kingston. Brigadier-General in command of the First Infantry Brigade, First Canadian Division, November, 1915. Mentioned in despatches twice; D.S.O.; C.M.G., 1917. In command of the Fifth Canadian Division in England, until the recent re-organization of the Canadian forces.

THE FLAG OF BRITAIN

Flag of Britain, proudly waving, over many distant seas;
Flag of Britain, boldly braving blinding fog and adverse breeze.
We salute thee, and we pray, bless, O God, our land to-day.

Flag of Britain! Wheresoever thy bright colours are outspread,
Slavery must cease for ever, light and freedom reign instead.
We salute thee, and we pray, bless, O God, our land to-day.

Flag of Britain! 'Mid the nations, may it ever speak of peace,
And proclaim, to farthest nations, all unworthy strife must cease.
We salute it, and we pray, bless, O God, our land to-day.

But if duty sternly need it, freely let it be unfurled,
Winds of Heaven then may speed it to each quarter of the world.
We salute it, and we pray, bless, O God, our land to-day.

Love of it, across the waters passing with electric thrill,
Binds our distant sons and daughters heart to heart with Britain still.
We salute it, and we pray, bless, O God, our land to-day.

Regions East and West united, all our Empire knit in one;
By right loyal hearts defended, let it wave beneath the sun.
We salute it, and we pray, bless, O God, our land to-day.

—E. A. Walker

At the words "We salute", the hand should be raised in the attitude of salute. At the words, "And we pray", the head should be bowed, still retaining the hand at the salute. It is desirable that the Union Jack should be raised during the singing or the recitation of the song.

"FOR JUSTICE"

Oh, to have died that day at Langemarck!
In one fierce moment to have paid it all—
The debt of life to Earth, and Hell, and Heaven!
To have perished nobly in a noble cause!
Untarnished, unpolluted, undismayed,
By the dank world's corruption, to have passed,
A flaming beacon-light to gods and men!
For in the years to come it shall be told
How these laid down their lives, not for their homes,
Their orchards, fields, and cities: "They were driven
To slaughter by no tyrant's lust for power;
Of their free manhood's choice they crossed the sea
To save a stricken people from its foe.
They died for Justice—Justice owes them this:
That what they died for be not overthrown."

—Bernard Freeman Trotter

NOTE.—Bernard Freeman Trotter was killed in action in France on May 7th, 1917. By his early death—he was only twenty-six—Canada lost a brave soldier and one of the most promising of her younger poets.

"WHO DIES IF ENGLAND LIVE?"

Though all we made depart,
  The old commandments stand:
In patience keep your heart!
  In strength lift up your hand!

No easy hope or lies
  Shall bring us to our goal—
But iron sacrifice
  Of body, will, and soul.

There's but one task for all,
  For each one life to give:
Who stands if Freedom fall?
  Who dies if England live?

—*Kipling*

"You men of Canada, there was no compulsion that impelled you into this war; there was no compulsion for our Australian and Australasian brothers to enter into the war; there was no need for the men of South Africa to enter into the war; there was no compulsion that would drive India into the war. The Mother Country of democracy, her life and her honour were at stake. Her plighted faith had been given, Belgium outraged and overrun, France invaded; England responded, and her colonies and Dominions, her men and her women, who had learned to understand what was meant by English democracy and English idealism, responded with an alacrity and a purpose and a meaning that sent a thrill to the hearts and consciences of liberty-loving men the world over."

—*Samuel Gompers, in the Canadian House of Commons, April 26th,* 1918